



# ALICE STILL IN THE CROSSCURRENTS

## One Step Forward, Two Steps Back

In Polk, Highlands and Hardee counties, 48% of households live paycheck to paycheck. This includes nearly 53,000 in poverty and another 140,000 who are **ALICE** – Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed – earning above poverty but less than the cost of basics.

While wages are growing, three other factors – inflation, loss of pandemic supports and a decade of falling behind – combined to keep ALICE trapped.

	STABLE	ALICE	POVERTY
<b>POLK</b>	52%	33%	15%
<b>HIGHLANDS</b>	50%	33%	17%
<b>HARDEE</b>	42%	30%	28%

This data is based on the 2022 ALICE in the Crosscurrents report.

“ I need to get our car fixed but  
**I DON'T HAVE THE MONEY.**  
 I have to choose between paying a bill or having reliable transportation.”



*Our Mission*  
 TO INSPIRE OUR COMMUNITY TO GIVE, ADVOCATE AND VOLUNTEER  
 BY IDENTIFYING NEEDS AND MOBILIZING VETTED RESOURCES TO  
 CREATE POSITIVE, LOCAL CHANGE.