



Affordable Housing

Florida's United Ways urge the 2020 Florida Legislature to increase access to affordable housing by appropriating all Sadowski Housing Trust Funds for their intended purpose.

ALICE

- 32% of Florida households are **ALICE** (**A**sset **L**imited, **I**ncome **C**onstrained, **E**mployed).
- **ALICE** families hold jobs, pay taxes, and provide services that are vital to Florida's economy: retail sales, customer service, laborers, hospital workers, health care aides and more.
- They work hard, live above the Federal Poverty Level and still cannot consistently afford the basics of housing, food, health care, child care, and transportation.
- Expenses such as car repairs and health care emergencies can plunge **ALICE** households into financial chaos. When this happens, families, employers and the state budget all lose.

BACKGROUND: AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- In 1992, the Florida Legislature adopted the William E. Sadowski Affordable Housing Act, dedicating trust fund revenues for affordable housing.
- Florida is in the midst of an Affordable Housing Crisis:
 - 912,967 very low-income Florida households - which include hardworking **ALICE** families, seniors, and people with disabilities - pay more than 50 % of their incomes for housing.
 - 64% of low income households and 26 % of all Florida households, pay more than 30% of their income on housing.
 - 45% of Florida's low income renter households pay more than 50% of their income on rent, and almost 75% of low income renter households pay more than 30%.
 - Florida has the third highest homeless population of any state in the nation,
- Lawmakers have "swept" over \$2.2 billion from affordable housing trust funds since 2001, using them for other purposes. Those diverted funds would have subsidized an estimated additional 166,746 Florida housing units.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING IS A POWERFUL ECONOMIC DRIVER

- Florida's affordable housing programs create thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in economic impact.
 - Each dollar of affordable housing trust funds leverages \$4 to \$6 in private investment, federal tax credits, and other funding sources.
 - Every \$1 million in affordable housing trust funds used for affordable housing supports 77 jobs and provides \$7.66 million of economic impact.

UNITED WAY'S REQUEST:

Florida's United Ways urge the 2020 Florida Legislature to increase access to affordable housing by appropriating all Sadowski Housing Trust Funds for their intended purpose.