



Ed Sjafe, Chairman of the Board
Darien Hudson, Ed.D., President & CEO

FY 2025-2026 Wraparound Services and Stability Fund Request for Proposals

United Way for Southeastern Michigan (United Way) is opening a competitive RFP process to fund eligible 501(c)3 nonprofits in Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne counties who are providing wraparound services that connect individuals and/or families to a variety of supports that help move them along a pathway to stability. Organizations are invited to apply for funding ranging from \$50,000 to \$150,000 for a 12-month grant period.

The FY2025-2026 Wraparound Services and Stability Fund investment process is an open call for applications from both potential and current funded partners of United Way who meet the eligibility criteria and funding priorities laid out in the application.

Applications are due no later than Friday, March 28, 2025, at 5:00 PM

United Way for Southeastern Michigan's Impact Vision

United Way for Southeastern Michigan is dedicated to helping individuals and families move from crisis to stability and from stability to prosperity in Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw, and Wayne counties. Every household should have access to systems and services that provide support during times of crisis, ensuring they can regain stability. Families should have safe homes, and the resources needed to foster healthy growth and development. Households should have access to nutritious food and opportunities to achieve financial self-sufficiency. We partner with organizations across the region to turn this vision into reality, empowering individuals and families to build brighter, more secure futures.

Making a Difference Together for ALICE Families

In Southeastern Michigan, more than 40% of households struggle to afford their basic needs. They are parents who can't afford quality childcare. They are seniors who are forced to choose between

buying food or medication. They are families who are struggling to keep up with the cost of living. They are our family members, our co-workers, our friends, and our neighbors. They are ALICE (ALICE is an acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed). Given these community conditions, our first responsibility as an organization is to serve families who fall under the ALICE threshold.

At United Way for Southeastern Michigan, the [ALICE Report](#) serves as our guidepost for making informed decisions about how and where we invest limited resources to maximize community impact. The report highlights areas of focus where we can target not only financial and technical support resources, but where we can advocate for policies that have the greatest potential for impact on ALICE households.

Our Collective Charge

We are seeking value-aligned community partners to join us in making durable changes to the wellbeing of ALICE families. To do this, we must work together to lift individuals and families above the ALICE threshold by increasing financial resources and reducing household costs.

Investing in a Coordinated Network of Partners

Connecting those who are most at risk to the support they need is a dynamic and complex undertaking that requires resources and collaboration to establish a shared responsibility for the economic wellbeing of ALICE households.

As the state's largest local United Way and 2-1-1 call center, United Way for Southeastern Michigan works side by side with community partners throughout Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Washtenaw Counties to improve and expand programming, foster collaboration, remove barriers to coordinated service delivery, and provide thought partnership and capacity building support to strengthen the fabric of nonprofit agencies in our region.

To maximize the impact of our investments and more sustainably support the needs of ALICE households, this year, our investment strategy moves away from multiple program-specific funds to a set of three grant opportunities intended to complement each other and give organizations the ability to choose where they best align and can most effectively engage around our shared priorities.

The new funding framework is designed to resource and engage a coordinated network of partners providing complementary services under a shared vision to help households living below the ALICE threshold move from crisis to stability and from stability to prosperity.

Wraparound Services and Stability Fund

We know that ALICE households often do not qualify for federal or state safety net programs, and even when they do qualify, federal and state benefits may not provide enough for achieving stability. Unfortunately, ALICE families also do not have a personal safety net to handle crises when they happen. The Wraparound Services and Stability Fund is designed to provide flexible funding to organizations or established collaboratives that are working to address the myriad of barriers ALICE households face and providing wraparound services that help put individuals and families on a pathway to stability.

Through the Wraparound Services and Stability Fund we are seeking organizations that can demonstrate their services go beyond addressing individual, immediate needs, and also offer programs that address multiple conditions that impact a household's well-being and quality of life. Examples of conditions may include: safe housing, equitable education access, income, access to nutritious food, integrated student supports aimed at eliminating family barriers, etc.

For this Fund, organizations may apply as an individual agency or an established collaborative with a history of working together. Collaboratives that can demonstrate they have been working together in some formal capacity for at least one year are eligible to apply as a collaborative entity. Collaboratives will submit a single application that includes the lead organization and a list of each

additional partner. Under this model, partners will have the discretion and flexibility to choose how they distribute funding among each other to maximize the impact of their work together. Collaboratives may span geographies, services areas and other distinguishing factors.

Eligibility Criteria and Funding Priorities

Funding from this grant opportunity will be used to bolster organizations that provide wraparound services or a variety of supports that impact a household's well-being and quality of life. Investment decisions will be made based on a variety of criteria, including but not limited to the scoring rubric, geographic scope, past performance, gaps in services and client population. All of which are designed to identify organizations that have the capability to create the most impact both individually and collectively for our region.

Funding criteria includes, but is not limited to:

1. Organizations that demonstrate an understanding of the barriers ALICE households face and provide evidence for how their programming removes or reduces those barriers.
2. Organizations that demonstrate their services address multiple conditions that impact a household's well-being and quality of life through a wraparound services approach.
3. Organizations that prioritize using lived experience and community voice when understanding community needs and developing programming.
4. Organizations with partnerships and operations in place to ensure participants are connected to resources in a coordinated and dignified way.
5. Organizations with a track record of successfully providing wraparound services.
6. Organizations that target populations who disproportionately fall below the ALICE Threshold.
7. Organizations that demonstrate an ability to scale services to meet need.
8. Organizations that serve people living in municipalities with high concentrations of ALICE.
9. Organizations that evaluate the success of their programs and measure impact/outcomes.
10. Organizations that are in a stable financial position. An organization's prior fiscal year revenue and/or operating budget may be considered in the award determination. Generally,

the requested amount should not exceed 15% of the prior year's revenue or current operating budget.

11. Organizations that are 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations. Organizations may apply via a fiduciary, if applicable. Organizations must be in good standing with the State of Michigan and the Internal Revenue Service and will be required to upload a copy of their IRS designation letter, 990 form, W-9, financial statements, and Michigan Solicitation License.
12. If applying as a collaborative, the group must demonstrate they have been working together in some formal capacity for at least one year.

Funding Information

We are providing one-year, flexible operating support through this grant. Of the total available, a minimum of \$1M will be invested to support efforts in Washtenaw County as a commitment of the merger between United Way of Washtenaw County and United Way for Southeastern Michigan.

ALICE Commitment

We stand with the 42% of households in Southeastern Michigan who struggle to afford a basic monthly budget. These Asset-Limited, Income-Constrained, and Employed (ALICE) households are at the core of our mission.

We center the unacceptable number of people struggling to make ends meet, particularly those ALICE households disproportionately impacted due to age, race, and gender.

We dedicate ourselves to addressing their immediate, unmet needs while strengthening the community networks and systems required to reduce financial precarity and expand opportunity.

We believe in engaging our community, illuminating disparities, and investing in solutions that dismantle systemic barriers to success. Together, we strive to ensure that every family has the opportunity to prosper in Southeastern Michigan.

Through our grant investments, we will work to ensure that the balance of our cohort is reflective and responsive to our community's current diverse needs.

Grant Timeline

Activity	Date
Application Opens	Monday, March 3, 2025
Applicant Office Hours Option 1, Click here to join	Thursday, March 13, 2025, from 10:00 am to 11:00 am
Applicant Office Hours Option 2, Click here to join	Tuesday, March 18, 2025, from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm
Application Closes	Friday, March 28, 2025, at 5:00 PM
Funding Determination Notifications	Week of June 23, 2025
Grant Period	July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

Applications are due no later than Friday, March 28, 2025, at 5:00 PM

How to Apply and Grant Resources

All applications must be completed and submitted through United Way's online grants management platform [SurveyMonkey Apply](#).

- [Application Questions](#)
- [Rubric](#)
- [Organization and Financial Information Questions](#)
- [SurveyMonkey Apply Manual](#)

Grant Website:

United Way for Southeastern Michigan Contact Information

- For questions on the FY 2025-26 Wraparound Services and Stability Fund and to schedule time to speak with a team member, please contact: partnernetworks@unitedwaysem.org
- For questions and technical support navigating [SurveyMonkey Apply](#), please contact: SurveyMonkey Inbox: sma@unitedwaysem.org