

# LIVE UNITED

## United Way of the Capital Area's Economic Mobility Plan

**Cassio Batteast**

**Economic Mobility Director**



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UNITED WE WIN.

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# Economic Mobility Defined

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- Economic mobility, or the ability of an individual or family to change their financial status, can have a multi-generational, positive impact on overall well-being by increasing access to quality healthcare, improving housing options, and broadening educational opportunities.

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## Overall Goal/Method

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- United Way's economic mobility goal is to ensure that **individuals and families improve their socio-economic status.**
- **Method**
  - **COLLECTIVE IMPACT:** UWCA developed the Economic Mobility Coalition to engage financial institutions and community organizations, through our community impact model.

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# UNITED WAY SERVICES

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- **FAMILY WIZE:** FamilyWize Prescription Savings Card can help everyone.
- **2-1-1 CALL CENTER**
- **VITA:** Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program
- **BANK ON PROGRAM:**

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# FAMILYWIZE

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## The Uninsured Individuals and Families who:

- Have no insurance
- Aren't covered by a family member's insurance
- **Employees who:**
  - Work for businesses that don't offer insurance
  - Have declined coverage
  - Work part-time
  - Are laid off and not on COBRA

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## 2-1-1 Call Center

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- Everyday hundreds of people across Mississippi turn to 211 for information and support—whether financial, domestic, health or disaster-related. 211 is a free, confidential referral and information helpline and website that connects people of all ages and from all communities to the essential health and human services they need, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- 211 can be accessed by phone or computer. A toll-free call to 211 connects you to a community resource specialist in your area who can put you in touch with local organizations that provide critical services that can improve—and save—lives.
- **You'll find information about:**
  - supplemental food and nutrition programs
  - shelter and housing options and utilities assistance
  - emergency information and disaster relief
  - employment and education opportunities
  - services for veterans
  - health care, vaccination and health epidemic information
  - addiction prevention and rehabilitation programs
  - reentry help for ex-offenders
  - support groups for individuals with mental illnesses or special needs
  - a safe, confidential path out of physical and/or emotional domestic abuse

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## **Mississippi ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed)**

- United For ALICE is a driver of innovation, shining a light on the challenges ALICE households face and seeking collaborative solutions.
- Through a standardized methodology that assesses the cost of living in every county, this project provides a comprehensive look at financial hardship across the US.
- Equipped with this data, ALICE partners collaborate, advocate, and innovate in their local communities to highlight the issues faced by ALICE households and to generate solutions that promote financial stability.

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# Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program

- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) is a national IRS program that provides in-person tax assistance to income-qualified taxpayers by trained volunteers. More than 380 United Ways fund, support or lead VITA programs, making it one of the most adopted impact programs across the US network. VITA introduces community members to other services provided by nonprofits and their partners, such as FAFSA completion and public benefit enrollment. VITA also offer volunteers an opportunity to obtain a marketable skill that improves their resumes and positions them for a better job.



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## Bank On Jackson

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- Bank On Jackson is committed to helping residents in Jackson, Mississippi (Hinds County) access safe and affordable banking products and services. Bank On Jackson partners from across sectors work together to connect community
- members to Bank On National Account Standard certified products that meet their needs. Bank On Jackson:
- Helps residents with information about how to use these products effectively and how to navigate the consumer finance marketplace successfully.
- Is part of the national Bank On movement of local partnerships across the country working together to improve the financial stability of unbanked and underbanked residents and to connect them to safe, affordable bank and credit union accounts.
- Provides outreach and programming to connect residents to safe financial products
- Partners with local financial institutions to facilitate account access, and work to integrate banking access strategies into nonprofit and government social services.
- *35% of households in our community are un- or underbanked. Jackson*

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# **BANK ON JACKSON**

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## **National Certified Accounts**

- Hope Credit Union
  - Hope Choice Card
- Southern Bancorp
  - Opportunity Card
- State Bank & Trust
  - Vision Account
- Wells Fargo
  - Easy Pay Card

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