

ALICE

ASSET LIMITED, INCOME CONSTRAINED, EMPLOYED



Poverty Simulator: How Will You Decide?
 You are a family of four with two children ages 7, and 2 and both parents work full time. You have 15 credits (or check marks) to spend each month. The rules are simple, spend credits in each category, and you cannot skip any of them. Better quality services cost more, so you have to pay two or three credits to enjoy them. What will be your priorities? How well will you live on an ALICE Survival Budget?



TRANSPORTATION

\$ You walk or bike everywhere because there is no public transportation available.

\$ You walk, bike or take public transportation when you need to go anywhere.

\$ You finance your own automobile so you can travel anywhere you choose when needed.

CHILDCARE

\$ You leave your children alone at home with the older sibling in charge.

\$ You place your children in an unlicensed child-care facility in the person's home.

\$ You enroll your children in a licensed child-care facility with early learning opportunities for your children.

FOOD

\$ You have 1 unbalanced meal per day with foods found at convenience stores or fast food locations.

\$ You have 2 semi-balanced meals per day made up of prepackaged or ready-to-eat options.

\$ You enjoy 3 home cooked or well-prepared and balanced meals per day with snacks.

HOUSING

\$ You stay in a long-term hotel rental with 1 bathroom. There is no patio, yard, parking or cooking amenities.

\$ You lease a 2 bedroom apartment with 1 bathroom, covered patio, covered parking and full kitchen.

\$ You own a 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath home with a fenced yard, 2 car garage, full kitchen and laundry room.

HEALTH CARE

\$ You do not have health insurance so you pay for all medical expenses yourself.

\$ You have limited health insurance for yourself through your employer but no coverage for your family.

\$ You have full medical, dental and vision coverage for your entire family through your employer.

SAVINGS

\$ Any savings is spent on necessities, leaving nothing for a rainy day.

\$ You manage to save \$20 a week after all your other bills are covered.

\$ You manage to save \$50 a week after all your other bills are covered.

SHOPPING

\$ You have a convenience store within walking distance, but no major shopping within 20 miles.

\$ You have a grocery store 10 blocks away and a mini-mall within a mile.

\$ You have convenient access to 2 grocery stores and a large mall within walking distance.