

Friendship Center for New Beginnings

162 Main St., Flemington, NJ 08822

Summer 2026

(908) 806-4444 or Toll Free: (877) 88-4-MOMS

"SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE"

EPHESIANS 4 : 15

BOARD MEMBERS

Jeannie Avery
Board Chair

Jummy Adejuyigbe
Board Vice-Chair
Media Chair

Joaquin Gonzalez
Building and Property
Chair

Brienne Janho
Board Member

Dr. Miriam Maldonado
Board Secretary

Dr. Sam Maldonado
Board Treasurer

John Potter
Board Member

Mary Potter
Board Member

Peer Counselors
Jeannie Avery

Linda Schneider

**Hispanic Peer
Counselors**

Yari Gonzalez

Rosana Lizana

Ilda Morales

Balbina Gonzalez

Executive Director

Mimi Koontz

The increasing inflation has made this a challenging summer for the many single mother families we serve, and we are so very grateful for your faithful support! Last year, as you know, we served over 120 needy families in about 1,000 visits throughout the whole year, and we are making every effort to reach even more in 2026!

We are committed to helping parents raise godly children, & we want to give God the glory for some recent changes that will help them to do that, as a result of your many prayers that have been answered!

Several recent Supreme Court decisions have been pivotal in re-establishing Biblical principles: they confirmed that **parents** have a constitutional right to be informed if their children adopt new pronouns, use a different name, or take other steps to socially transition to the opposite gender identity at school & staff must not hide it from parents.

Further, it overturned a state law, which had tried to ban what is called 'conversion therapy' - when a young person asks for help to **overcome** the desire to live out a gender opposite to biological identity. The state cannot restrict the counselor's freedom of speech under the First Amendment, to assist them to be at peace with their biological identity given by God at conception. All Medicaid funding has been eliminated for "sex-rejecting procedures" for minors, and 27 states in the U.S. have passed laws protecting minors from these procedures.

Finally, following many instances of males competing in female sports as females, and therefore wrongfully receiving awards, because of their greater strength; the Supreme Court decided that state laws banning this practice were to be upheld.

**Please pray that God will send
revival to honor Biblical Truth!**



GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS!

Visit Our WebSite: www.friendship-center.org

Email: jeannie@friendship-center.org

Fax #: (908) 806-4277

"THEY WILL GLORIFY GOD BECAUSE OF YOUR GENEROSITY" 2 CORINTHIANS 9:13

Almost all of the families we serve would be classified as ALICE households. ALICE stands for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed. Combining ALICE households with those living below the even lower Federal Poverty Line, about 40% of New Jersey households live below the ALICE threshold, meaning they do not make enough wages to cover even a Basic Survival Budget.(BSB)

Not included in the BSB are many items that most families take for granted: even children's birthday and Christmas presents—**which is the reason we keep a new toy room, where each child is invited to choose a toy at that time!** Most of these families have no savings to cover unexpected household expenses like an unforeseen car repair or a costly medical bill.

As the 2026 ALICE report states, "These households are forced to make impossible choices, like deciding whether to pay for utilities or a tank of gas to get to work; whether to buy food or fill a prescription; whether to live close to work and pay more for housing or to opt for a longer, more costly commute."

Because the BSB reflects the bare-minimum cost of household basics, families are unable to experience the economies of scale that occur when one is able, for instance, to buy a box of diapers, instead of several higher-priced smaller packages to make up the same number. **Because of your generous support, we are able always to buy the boxes of diapers,** and then we split them up to provide about half the diapers each baby needs daily.

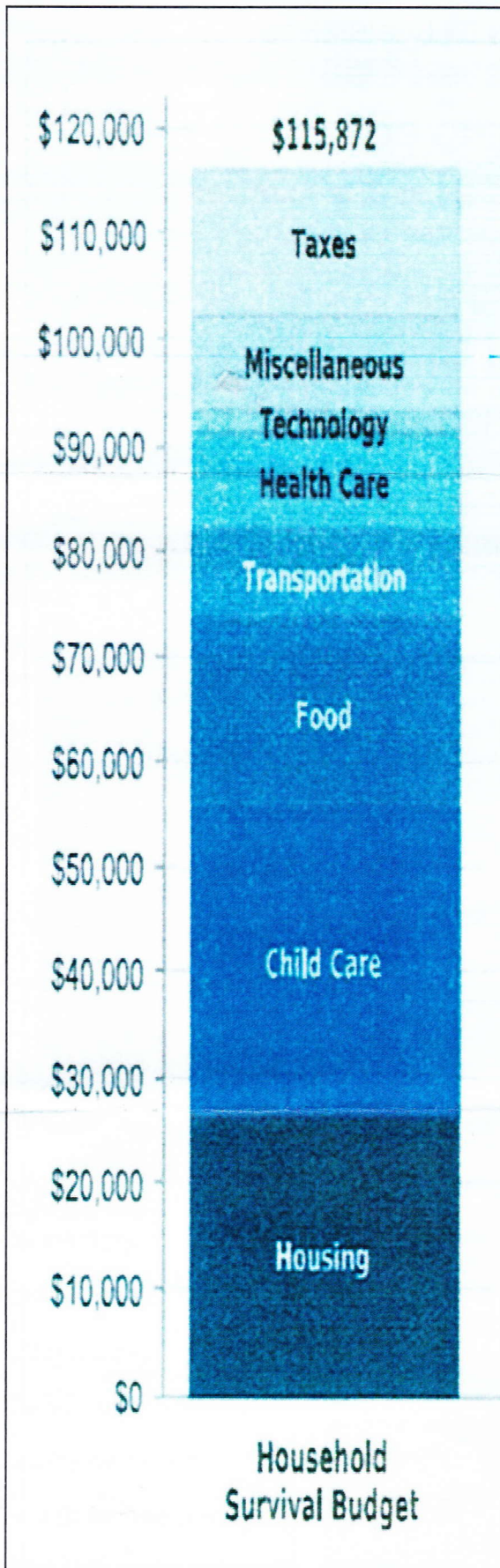
As you will notice in the graph below, taken from the 2026 report "The State of ALICE in New Jersey", **75% of female-headed households were below the ALICE Threshold, compared to 19% of married-parent households. This is one of the reasons that we do all we can to encourage cohabiting couples to marry, if they plan to stay together, or if not, to separate, in order that each may find a better match to build a godly family.**

We share Christian resources about making wise choices in relationships & budgeting!

THE BENEFIT OF A STABLE MARRIAGE IN FAMILIES!

Key Demographic Groups, New Jersey, 2024

	Total	Total Below ALICE Threshold	Percent Below ALICE Threshold	Poverty ALICE Above ALICE Threshold
HOUSEHOLD TYPE				
Married With Children	708,082	131,232	19%	4% 14% 81%
Single-Female-Headed With Children	204,446	152,849	75%	32% 43% 25%
Single-Male-Headed With Children	70,524	43,108	61%	19% 42% 39%
Single or Cohabiting, Under 65, no Children	1,534,162	567,445	37%	8% 29% 63%



It will be clear from the graph to the left, from the ALICE 2026 Report, that the Household Survival Budget Costs exceed the wages of the ALICE families we serve at Friendship Center.

We believe God called us to this community not only to faithfully help and encourage every mother to choose life for her precious baby, but also to enable them to reach their full God-given potential in the future. This goal inevitably involves provision of wise counsel and encouragement in education.

First, some background information as to the need for our help:

40% of all births in the U.S. in 2025 were to unmarried mothers, which, as the previous page showed, adds to the risk of poverty—since they are usually unable to complete college or trade school.

This means they are mostly tied to low-wage jobs, with unstable hours, in retail, waitressing or health care. **We help pay for further education towards financial self-sufficiency.**

We also encourage them to connect with available community networks like RAISE UP, a bipartisan group which offers retraining programs for those whose jobs have been disrupted by AI, to prepare for new roles.

For their children, the 2025 NJ Kids Count revealed that about 50% of 8th graders are not proficient in reading, and about 80% are not so in maths—a stunning problem in our high-tech world!

We pay for individualized professional tutoring for students who are at least one grade level behind, and have seen proven life-changing results.

We thank God that the U.S. will no longer fund the former graphic sex education curriculums, instead emphasizing abstinence and marriage.

We teach parents the Success Sequence for their teens: honor God by graduating, get a job, & get married before having children!

Pray with us that the Lord will raise up a new generation to love and serve Him!

FALL NEEDS LIST 2026
FRIENDSHIP CENTER FOR NEW BEGINNINGS

HELP FOR OUR MOMS' RISING COSTS!

DIAPERS: – Boxes of Huggies and Pampers ONLY please, as these are best on allergic skins!

Sizes 4, 5, and 6 only please

- Unscented BABY WIPES
- Baby Wash/Lotion/Shampoo/Diaper Rash Cream

Gift Certificates for Shoprite and Wal-Mart

are like pure gold for our single moms! In suggested amounts of \$20.00, please.

BOYS & GIRLS CLOTHING

- Socks – Toddler - adult
- Tights – Toddler – size 10
- Underwear - Toddler – size 12
- Sweat pants up to size 6
- Boots - size 13 to adult
- Hats, Gloves and scarves
- Boys Coats-3mos, 6mos, 5T, 9/10-14/16
- Girls Coats-3mos-14/16



TOYS

- Construction Toys (Especially Legos Please)
- Play doh
- Dolls
- Trucks/cars
- Infant developmental toys
- Outdoor sports equipment
- Board Bible story books

BEDDING

- Receiving Blankets
- Crib Quilts
- Crib Pads
- Crib Sheets