

THE ALICE EXPERIENCE | MEET THE MARINO FAMILY



Jen Marino, 36
Caseworker
\$20.75 per hour



Grace Marino, 37
Stylist, part-time
NYS Minimum Wage



Sam, 14



Joy & Jamie, 6
Twins



Arya, 13 months

THE GOAL: CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Marino family is a blended family living in the Panama district. Even with Jen having a college degree and working full time, their annual income is **\$74,000** per year, which is above the federal poverty limit but not sustainable for a family of 6. Grace would like to earn her salon certification and work from her home.

The Marinos are struggling to keep up with school expenses and the growth of their children. A lot of the sports or extracurricular activities cost money, and the children are constantly growing and in need of new shoes, clothes, etc. every few months. Access to quality childcare is difficult-the one daycare is a 20-minute drive and has no vacancies, so Arya has been put on a waitlist.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

- The Marinos only have one vehicle at the moment.
- The family has one prepaid cell phone, and access to internet is spotty on their data plan.

GUIDELINES:

- Keep your goals in mind.
- Budget for all categories - you may not skip a section.
- You may budget for any category in any order.

MARINO FAMILY

TOTAL FAMILY BUDGET 15 COINS*

TOTAL COINS SPENT:

You may not exceed your budget

HOUSING

1

- Studio apartment
- One bath

2

- Apartment
- One bed
- One bath

3

- House
- Two beds
- One and a half baths

CHILD CARE

1

- No access to reliable childcare

2

- Leave kids with multiple family and friends, but found it is unreliable

3

- Put the kids in a reliable, licensed childcare center close to home

SAVINGS

1

- After the bills/food is paid for, no extra money is left

2

- \$20 left over each week after all the bills are paid to pay down debt

3

- \$50 left over each week after all bills are paid to pay down debt and contribute to savings

TRANSPORTATION

1

- No access to public transportation
- Rely on family and friends for rides

2

- Take CARTS buses, but the schedule can be unreliable

3

- Own your own car

FOOD

1

- Full of carb-heavy, processed foods
- Void of nutrients
- High in fats and sodium

2

- Rely on cheaper cuts of meat
- Canned fruits and vegetables, which are higher in sodium and sugar

3

- Lean meats
- Fresh fruits and vegetables
- Locally sourced

HEALTH

1

- Avoid going to the doctor

2

- Only go to the doctor when it's an emergency

3

- Proactively address health concerns

NEIGHBORHOOD

1

- Sometimes unsafe, high lead levels
- under resourced schools
- Grocery store within five miles, no proximity to support services

2

- Relatively safe, some lead levels
- Resourced schools
- grocery store & support services within walking distance

3

- Safe, low lead levels
- Abundantly resourced schools
- Two grocery stores nearby access to many support services

TECHNOLOGY

1

- No cell phone
- No computer or internet
- No TV

2

- Cell phone with a prepaid monthly plan
- No computer or internet
- No TV

3

- Cell phone
- Home computer with internet
- TV with cable/streaming

1=1 COIN, 2=2 COINS, 3=3 COINS | YOU CANNOT SKIP A SECTION | KEEP YOUR FAMILY'S GOAL IN MIND WHILE MAKING YOUR BUDGET