Last week, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi made the most reassuring statement of the economic on- unemployment benefits dimmolns. “It can happen,” she said. “We have to do everything in our power to mitigate the economy.”

Despite the dire forecasts, many people are still finding ways to make ends meet. In fact, according to a recent report by the National Bureau of Economic Research, the average American household saved nearly 30% of their income in the first half of the year. This is a significant increase from the 25% saved in 2020.

While the job market remains challenging, there are signs of improvement. The unemployment rate dropped to 4.8% in July, the lowest level since the COVID-19 pandemic began. And the number of job openings continues to rise, with over 9.2 million job postings as of July 2021.

For those who have lost their jobs, the government has also stepped up to provide relief. The American Rescue Plan, signed into law in March, included a $3,600 per child tax credit and enhanced unemployment benefits for up to 39 weeks.

In addition, many communities have launched programs to provide job training and placement services. The Rhode Island Department of Labor and, sponsored by the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation, offers a variety of programs to help job seekers find employment.

Despite these efforts, there is still much work to be done. With the Delta variant gaining traction, there is concern about the spread of COVID-19 and the potential for another wave of unemployment.

However, the resilience of the American people is evident. As one long-term unemployed worker said, “I’ve learned to be patient and persistent. I will continue to look for opportunities, knowing that one day the right one will come along.”