

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Eligible?

To participate, a family must be a public housing or HCV participant of the Housing Authority. Participation is voluntary; the only requirements are a willingness to seek employment and a desire to become self-sufficient.

How does the FSS Program work?

- 1) Complete a FSS Enrollment Application.
- 2) A FSS Coordinator will contact you to develop your short- and long-term goals for the five-year term.
- 3) Sign a FSS Contract of Participation.
- 4) The family receives case management and referrals as needed to help achieve short- and long-term goals.
- 5) Meet with your FSS Coordinator periodically to discuss progress and additional supportive services needed.
- 6) Families who complete all of their goals are eligible to apply for graduation from the FSS Program

What are the incentives for participating in the FSS Program?

The FSS program offers a unique savings opportunity to qualifying families known as an escrow account, which is a savings account created and maintained by the Housing Authority. At the time of enrollment, a baseline is established on the Contract of Participation (COP) according to the current household income. The escrow account is established when the FSS participant reports wage increases in the household and the increase in wages exceeds the baseline. FSS participants must achieve all goals established in the FSS COP in order to be eligible to receive escrow funds.

How do you graduate from the FSS Program?

In order to graduate from the FSS Program, the head of household must adhere to the following:

- Complete all goals within the term of the FSS COP.
- Be employed.
- All family members must be free of any cash welfare assistance for 12 consecutive months prior to completion of the program
- The family must be in good standing with the Housing Authority.

Can the FSS Program help families purchase a home?

The FSS program can refer families to first-time home ownership programs that provide the education necessary to increase home ownership options.

Many families have used their escrow savings as a down payment on their first home!

Incoming portability families welcome!

The Housing Authority is currently accepting Section 8 portability families with active FSS Contracts of Participation.