

# PPHA Family Self Sufficiency Program

## What is the Family Self Sufficiency Program?

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) established the Family Self-Sufficiency Program (FSS) in 1990. The purpose of this volunteer program is to help families (with the help of the community services) becoming self-sufficient by attaining established goals.

FSS combines case management, education, job training, and ongoing support to assist families working toward self-sufficiency. In this 5-year program, families can establish an escrow account (savings account) that is often used to pay for such things as college education, a car, furniture, and/or the down payment on a new home.

## WHO CAN BE A PARTICIPANT?

A participant of the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) head of household, 18 years or older and is:

- Interested in making a new life for themselves and their families.
- Willing to commit to a plan and accept the challenge of making their lives better.
- Determined to free themselves from all government assistance.

## REQUIREMENTS

The head-of-household must sign a contract of participation. The heads of household must agree to seek employment (or train for and then seek employment) to qualify for graduation. Workshops must be attended and referral appointments kept, which will assist FSS participants in gaining more knowledge to make better informed decisions.



**We now have Family Self-Sufficiency participants who are earning escrow accounts that vary from \$20 to over \$16,000!**

How can the FSS program help improve your life?

- Identify goals
- Identify and remove the barriers which could prevent achievement of goals
- Identify resources and services that are necessary for success
- Develop a plan to outline specific activities and actions needed to achieve goals
- Receive case management services, encouragement, motivation, and moral support to achieve goals



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## What Support Services are available?

- Career counseling
- Job Training
- Education (high school diploma, GED, college)
- Scholarships for graduating HS Seniors
- Financial planning
- Budgeting
- Legal services
- Child Care Assistance Referral
- Parenting skills
- Communication skills
- Drug and alcohol abuse counseling
- Credit Counseling
- Home buyer education
- Referrals for Down Payment Assistance
- Transportation Assistance
- Self-Improvement Workshops
- Energy Assistance Intake Site
- Other relevant services



If you are interested in learning more about the Family-Self Sufficiency Program, please contact us or visit our web page [www.parmahousing.org](http://www.parmahousing.org)

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