

**The Family
Self-Sufficiency
Program Helps
You Remove
Barriers
And Achieve
Economic
Independence**

**Career
Counseling
Education
Training
English as
A Second
Language
Job Readiness
Child Care
Transportation
Self Esteem
Money
Management
Saving
Substance
Abuse
Physical or
Mental Health
Employment**

The information in this brochure will be made available to persons with disabilities in alternative format upon request.
Call 703-246-5101.
TTY: 703-385-3578.
Allow seven (7) working days for preparation of materials.



OPPORTUNITY



Family Self-Sufficiency Program
Fairfax County Department of Housing
and Community Development
3700 Pender Drive, Suite 100
Fairfax, VA 22030-6039

What's Standing Between You And Economic Independence?

Fairfax County Department of
Housing and Community Development

Family Self-Sufficiency Program



A Fairfax County, VA., publication

What is the Family Self-Sufficiency Program?

The Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program is an innovative, voluntary program that helps Housing Choice Voucher and Public Housing residents achieve economic independence over a five-year period. Participants work with a case manager to assess their strengths, identify barriers, set goals and work to achieve them.

Who is eligible?

Housing Choice Voucher and Public Housing residents whose goal is economic independence are eligible to participate in the program. Once the person who is head or co-head of the household on the lease signs an FSS Contract of Participation, all family members in the home who are 18 years or older are also eligible for services.

What are the benefits to you and your family?

■ Job Readiness Services

Training in resume writing, interviewing and job search skills.

■ Job Training and Career Counseling

Learn new skills for today's job market or improve the skills you already have. Work with your FSS Coordinator on a plan to put you on a career track!

■ Education/Self-Improvement

Obtain your GED, prepare for entry into college or sharpen your language skills with an ESL course. Attend workshops on self-esteem, money management and parenting.

■ Financial Rewards!

Once you become employed - or if you are already employed, but your earned income increases - FSS will help you build a savings account.

Other benefits include: child care, transportation, personal and family counseling services, and treatment services for substance abuse.

How does the savings account work?

Normally, when your income increases and you live in subsidized housing, your rent will increase. However, if you participate in the FSS program and your earned income increases, Fairfax County Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) will put a portion of your rent increase into an escrow (savings) account. When you accomplish your goal of self-sufficiency within the period of your contract, you will graduate and receive the money in your escrow savings account, which will have earned interest.

How long is the program?

You may participate in the FSS program for up to five years. In some cases, FSS may extend the contract for two more years. You will graduate from FSS when you have achieved self-sufficiency—that means when you no longer need public assistance.

If you graduate from the FSS program and are still income-eligible for subsidized housing, you may keep your housing subsidy.

How do I enroll?

Complete this form and mail it to the FSS Coordinator. You will receive information about the next orientation session. For more information, please call Sharon Willis, FSS Coordinator at 703-246-5007, TTY: 703-385-3578 or Hardy Muhammad, FSS Coordinator at 703-246-5289, TTY: 703-385-3578.

Print Name _____ Phone _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I am a Housing Choice Voucher Program Participant T-C code _____

I am a Public Housing resident

Please clip this form and mail it to: FSS Coordinator
Fairfax County Department of Housing and Community Development
3700 Pender Drive, Suite 100
Fairfax, VA 22030-6039