

The Family Self-Sufficiency Program

Where do you imagine yourself in 5 years? A new job? A finished degree? Moving towards home ownership?

The Family Self-Sufficiency Program is a 5-year work and saving program for families receiving housing assistance.

Working with a dedicated FSS Coordinator, program participants set long term and short term goals that will increase their ability to earn a greater income and move toward self-sufficiency.

Participants in the FSS program have earned higher education and training, built a savings account, bought a reliable vehicle, secured new work, and more! FSS Coordinators help participants identify obstacles, set targets, and move closer to where they want to be.

Want to learn more? Call us today at (540) 437 - 9545

Have a Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) and interested in the FSS program?
Contact us today!



CONTACT US

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Harrisonburg Redevelopment & Housing Authority

Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program

RESERVOIR STREET OFFICE
143 RESERVOIR ST
HARRISONBURG, VA 22801
540-437-9545



Set SMART goals & identify strategies to meet them



Increase income & pursue goals over 5-Year program



Graduate with new skills, higher earnings, and a personal savings account

FSS PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- + Seek and ultimately maintain at least 20 hours/week employment **or** maintain full-time school enrollment
- + Set and pursue goals in cooperation with FSS Coordinator
- + Provide monthly updates to FSS Coordinator
- + Maintain a family budget
- + Report income changes within 10 days to HRHA Main Office

FSS PROGRAM BENEFITS

- + **Ability to earn savings each month** by diverting rent increases (from increased earned income) to an HRHA managed escrow account
- + **Access to program incentives** for working participants, such as the Free Furniture Program
- + **Referral to community resources** like credit counseling, childcare, transportation assistance, continuing education, job training, and more
- + **Dedicated FSS Coordinator** who will partner with you, helping you identify and work towards your program goals

GROW A PERSONAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT!

Every FSS participant has the opportunity to grow a personal savings account over the 5-year program. At the start of the program, your current income and rent payment are recorded. As your earned income increases, your resulting rent increase will be moved into a savings account. You can draw on your savings for job related expenses throughout the 5-year program, and then receive that savings in full upon program graduation. Some program participants have graduated with over \$10,000 in their account!



Program Graduation

+ The Program Contract is for 5 years. Participants who have completed goals at the end of their term are eligible for graduation. Participants must not be receiving TANF and must be working full time. Any savings is disbursed to the graduate along with a certificate. Early graduation is possible under certain conditions.

"I really appreciate the FSS program. They helped me use my savings (escrow) to repair my vehicle and they also helped with Christmas for my daughter. It is a great program!"
- Cherie W.

FSS Program Participant

"The FSS program helps you be responsible without always having the government give to you. They will give to you to the point that they are helping you, so that in the future, after the 5 years, you can be on your own."
- Jessy G.

FSS Program Graduate