

HRHA's Moving to Work (MtW) Plan Summary for Residents & Participants

June 2021

The Harrisonburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority (HRHA) is making agency-wide changes as part of HUD's Moving to Work (MtW) expansion.

Why are we making these changes?

We have many motivations:

- **Reduce time and burden on residents, participants, and HRHA staff.**
- **Increase participant self-sufficiency.**
- **Simplify housing processes and calculations.**
- **Expand housing opportunities & assistance.**



How will my voucher change?

Certifications

- You will only need a certification every three years instead of every year.
- You will no longer need to report changes in income (unless increase from zero income).
 - Increased earnings will not impact rent until the next three-year certification.
 - Income decreases can result in a rent change once per calendar year.
- We will simplify the utility allowance schedule.
- We will accept self-certification for assets under \$50,000.

Rent Policies

- We will increase the elderly/disabled allowance.
- We will eliminate deductions for medical expenses (hardship exemptions allowed).
- We will eliminate childcare deductions (hardship exemptions allowed).
- Income for household dependents 20 and younger will not be counted in rent calculation.
- Minimum household rent will increase from \$50 to \$100.
- We will increase participant rent responsibility from 30% to 35% of adjusted income.

Other Changes

Franklin Heights: You must reside in Franklin Heights two years to be eligible for portability (increased from one year).



HRHA's Moving to Work (MtW) Plan Summary for Residents & Participants



What else is HRHA changing?

Increasing Affordable Housing

- We will offer security deposit assistance, one month's rent for empty units, and more to participating landlords.
- We will provide help in searching for housing, including one-on-one support in locating affordable rentals.
- We will eliminate the procurement process for HRHA-owned units to reduce cost and increase efficiencies.

Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program

- We will replace the current escrow/savings program with an incentive-based program. Escrow will be earned through accomplishing a variety of goal related activities like budgeting, obtaining higher education, participating in FSS events, increasing income.
- We will continue transitioning towards a coaching-driven case management model that values participant goal setting, collaboration, and empowerment.
- We will provide extension of FSS services to participants for up to 6 months AFTER they graduate FSS.

For the full and updated list of changes, see www.harrisonburgrha.com/mtw



How can I learn more and provide feedback?



Scan with your phone camera to go to our website.



Visit www.harrisonburgrha.com/mtw and submit a feedback form.



Talk with your HCV Specialist at 540-434-7386 or your FSS Coordinator at 540-437-9545.



Join a June Focus Group
Wednesday June 9

10:00am to 11:30am or
6:00pm to 7:30pm

Call us or visit our website for call in details.