

Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS)

Improving the quality of YOUR life by achieving economic independence and self-sufficiency.

What is FSS?

FSS is a program created and designed by HUD to assist families receiving rental assistance to improve their economic situation and reduce their dependence on public assistance and welfare. This program is voluntary and open to all families residing in Tri-City Housing Authority. The only requirements are a desire to become self-sufficient and a willingness to take the steps to make this happen.

How does the FSS Program work?

Head of Household enters into a Contract of Participation with TCHA for five years. This contract contains an Individual Training and Service Plan that identifies the employment goal of the participant and outlines the activities and services necessary to achieve this goal. The FSS Program Coordinator helps the family obtain the services listed in the plan.

Services provided: The FSS Program Coordinator can help you find the resources and opportunities you need to become self-sufficient, including but not limited to:

- Job training and employment opportunities. For example, the FSS Coordinator can make referrals to your local DOL WIA Program and/or Goodwill Southern Rivers Program and they can provide information about job search workshops, give you access to computers, information and referrals to training programs and much more
- Child Care assistance through referral to DFCS CAPS Program
- Educational programs (including GED and College Classes)
- Job, school and financial application assistance
- Transportation assistance
- Counseling/Case management
- Basic Money Skills and Financial Trainings are available from the FDIC where you may also receive a free CD of the Money Smart Program

The Escrow (Savings) Account: Once your rent increases due to an increase in your earnings, the amount of the increase will be placed in a savings account for you and your family. You will receive the money in your account when the FSS Contract is successfully completed. Successful completion of the contract includes suitable employment, 12 consecutive months free of TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) for at least the last 12 months of contract and all goals of contract are completed.