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www.ScottsdaleAZ.gov search "Housing Choice Voucher"

# FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY (FSS) PROGRAM

Scottsdale Housing Agency has a voluntary assistance program for Housing Choice Voucher participants. FSS is designed to assist families in achieving economic independence and self-sufficiency through education, job training and increased earned income.

If you are interested in the FSS Program, your next steps are:

- 1. Read the FSS Program explanation
- 2. Complete the attached application. Don't forget to sign it. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- 3. The FSS Specialist will review your application, then call you to schedule an appointment.
- 4. At the first appointment, we will go over the program and requirements. We will discuss your goals and create your Individual Training and Service Plan (ITSP). The ITSP is often referred to as "goals sheet".
- 5. If a second appointment is needed, the Contract of Participation and ITSP will be signed at that time.

PLEASE NOTE: Current employment is NOT a requirement for enrollment in the FSS program, but it is expected that you have employment goals and will become employed.

City of Scottsdale Family Self-Sufficiency Specialist:

Gabrielle Alexander galexander@scottsdaleaz.gov 480-312-2257





#### **Goals of Family Self-Sufficiency**

Family Self-Sufficiency is a Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program designed to help participants to improve their knowledge, skills and employability. FSS partners with families to become free of public assistance and attain economic self-sufficiency.

#### **Eligibility for Participation in FSS**

Current HCV participants, who are in good standing, are eligible to participate in the FSS program. Enrollment may be subject to program size limitations and applicant's approval by FSS selection committee.

#### **Case Management**

A participant will be asked to establish short term, interim and final goals. The FSS Specialist will review the goals and identify which supportive services are needed and how to obtain assistance in those areas. The goals will be reviewed on a regular basis.

#### **Contract of Participation**

Each family participating in the FSS program must execute a Contract of Participation and an Individual Training and Service Plan. The head of household will sign the contract to be completed within five (5) years, or less.

#### **Financial Incentive: Escrow Account**

The FSS program provides a financial benefit for the family at the completion of the FSS program. As the EARNED income in the household increases, the tenant rental portion also increases.

If you are participating in the FSS program, HUD sets aside an amount relative to the tenant rental portion increase, as long as the earned income remains the same or increases.

The amount in the set – aside account (ESCROW) will be paid in full to the head of household once the Contract of Completion has been satisfied AND when there has been no cash assistance (TANF) coming into the household for the last 12 months. Please read the FSS Contract of Participation for full details.

| <u>Total Tenant Payment (TTP)</u> | <u>Rent</u> | <u>Housing Subsidy</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| \$100 (to landlord)               | \$500       | \$400 (to landlord)    |

TWO YEARS LATER: **Earned** income **increases** TTP to \$300

| <u>Total Tenant Payment</u> | <u>Rent</u> | <u>Housing Subsidy</u>                        |
|-----------------------------|-------------|---|
| \$300 (to landlord)         | \$500       | \$200 (to landlord) + \$200 to escrow account |

Tenant portion is \$300; Housing portion has reduced from \$400 to \$200; now housing is only paying \$200 toward your rental subsidy. The balance of \$200 that HUD was paying, is now going into the escrow account for your family.





## FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY (FSS) PROGRAM APPLICATION

I am interested in participating in the FSS Program. Please schedule me for an informational appointment. I understand that failure to attend my appointment will result in my name being removed from the list for FSS participation.

| Name:   |                 |                       | Phone:            |  |  |
|---|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| Street Address:   |                 |                       | Zip Code:         |  |  |
|   |                 |                       | _                 |  |  |
| Circle all that apply:  |                 |                       |                   |  |  |
| Work full-time  | Work part-time  | Not currently working | Full-time student |  |  |
| Part-time studentNot i  | n school        |                       |                   |  |  |
| The best way to reach   | me is: phone    | email                 |                   |  |  |
| The best time to reach  | me is:          |                       |                   |  |  |
| I have completed the attached Personal Data and Goals form (required to obtain an appointment).  Signature: Date:   |                 |                       |                   |  |  |
| If you are a person with a disability and require a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in the programs and services at the City of Scottsdale Housing Authority, please call 480-312-7717. You may be required to provide information to support your reasonable accommodation request. |                 |                       |                   |  |  |
|   |                 | NOT WRITE BELOW THIS  | LINE              |  |  |
|   |                 |                       |                   |  |  |
|   |                 | <del>-</del>          |                   |  |  |
| Information Appointme   | ent:            |                       |                   |  |  |
|   |                 |                       | no                |  |  |
| Docs received by dead   | ent:dline: date | yes                   |                   |  |  |





## PERSONAL DATA AND GOALS

| Please list your career goals that you would like to accomplish:   |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |
| Please list your education and/or training goals you would like to accomplish:   |  |  |
| Please list your personal/family goals (parenting, money management, homeownership, life skills, etc.):  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Please list your financial goals:  |  |  |
| Other goals you would like pursue:   |  |  |
| Personal Statement: Describe your past work experience, training and/or education. Please describe what future career you would like. Please describe the barriers you are facing to achieve your goals. How can FSS help you? |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| <del></del>  |  |  |
|  |  |  |





## **CURRENT STATUS**

| Years of school completed:   |                  | _ Diploma |            | GED |                              |  |
|--|------------------|-----------|------------|-----|------------------------------|--|
| What form of tran  | sportation do    | you use:  | Circle all | tha | t apply                      |  |
| Own  | car              | Walk      | Ві         | us  | Other                        |  |
| Do you have a ho   | ome computer     | ? No      | Yes        | 8   |                              |  |
| What   | t are your other | needs:    |            |     |                              |  |
|  | Food assistand   | ce        |            |     | Self esteem                  |  |
|  | Counseling       |           |            |     | Transportation               |  |
|  | Parenting        |           |            |     | Domestic Violence counseling |  |
|  | Childcare        |           |            |     | College                      |  |
|  | Resume writing   | g         |            |     | Time management              |  |
|  | Employment       |           |            |     | Self-employment              |  |
|  | GED              |           |            |     | Other                        |  |
|  | Money manage     | ement     |            |     | Self esteem                  |  |
|  | Self esteem      |           |            |     | Other                        |  |
| Scottsdale Housing Agency Family Self-Sufficiency Information Release  |                  |           |            |     |                              |  |
| authorize Scottsdale Housing Agency to release general information of my participation in the FSS program. This information may be used for various media sources such as FSS newsletters, announcements, brochures, or to help promote the program, or to coordinate services. This includes but is not limited to event photos. Declining to sign below will not affect my participation in the FSS program. |                  |           |            |     |                              |  |
| Printed Name   |                  |           |            |     |                              |  |
| Signature  |                  |           |            |     | Date                         |  |



