

Housing Choice Voucher Family Self Sufficiency Information Sheet

The Montgomery Housing Authority Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program is a voluntary program designed to assist families in becoming economically independent and self-sufficient within a five (5) year timeframe. All Montgomery Authority Housing Choice Voucher HCV Participants are eligible to participate in the Family Self-Sufficiency Program.

Program Discovery:

- ▶ There is **NO COST** to participate - receive services of case management, resource assistance, problem-solving and referral services. Access to the Resident Employment and Training Center for GED classes, training and job search assistance
- ▶ Remain a member of the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) for up to five years working toward your goals. While in the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program, you must be active; either in school or working at least 30 hours per week. You have five (5) years to reach your goals.
- ▶ Receive extensive case management; meet with your assigned case manager and complete a family assessment. It is the responsibility of the program participant to stay in contact with the Case Manager by phone, email, office visits or sending in progress reports.
- ▶ Enter into an agreement with the Montgomery Housing Authority Family Self-Sufficiency Program. This agreement is called a Contract of Participation. This agreement explains Montgomery Housing Authority's responsibility to you and it also explains your responsibility as a participant in the Family Self-Sufficiency Program.
- ▶ Develop a "Service Plan"; which is your plan of action to reach your goals. This "service plan" will have written steps of what you will do to become self-sufficient. The Case Manager will be available to you as you work to complete the goals and help with problem solving.

Program Completion Requirements:

- ▶ Must be employed
- ▶ Household must be free of TANF (*cash benefits only*) for 12 consecutive months prior to completion
- ▶ Complete goals outlined in Individual Service Training Plan

Program Incentive

- ▶ The program incentive or reward for successful growth and completion of the Family Self-Sufficiency Program is the ESCROW account. Reach your goals and discontinue receipt of any welfare assistance and you are eligible for your escrow funds (*if applicable*).
- ▶ During your participation in the Family Self-Sufficiency program, if you have achieved interim goals (after one year of enrollment) and need assistance with attaining goals related to education, training, car repairs, purchase of car and starting own business; you may request an ESCROW advancement
- ▶ The ESCROW Advancements are determined based on those items that directly impact the Family's ability to get to and from work. Can only receive advance once within a twelve (12) month timeframe.



For more information contact 334-206-7232

