

## What is the FSS Program?

The FSS program is a five-year, self-paced, voluntary program designed to assist Housing Choice Voucher Participants achieve self-sufficiency. Participation requires a personal commitment by each individual to develop their own career, educational, and personal goals. By working directly with the FSS team, participants will receive referrals, supportive services, and the opportunity to earn an escrow savings account.



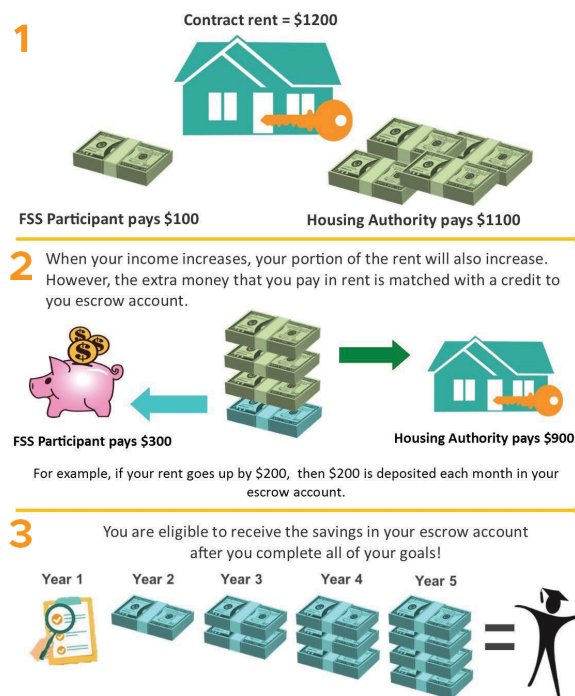
## Who Joins FSS?

- 1 You must be a current Housing Choice Voucher (also known as Section 8) or Special program voucher holder.
- 2 You must set your own career and educational goals.
- 3 You must agree to complete your goals within five years.
- 4 You must remain eligible for the Housing Choice Voucher Program while participating in the program.

## What is an Escrow Account?

As a participant in the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, generally as your income increases, your rent will increase. When you join the FSS Program, HCDS will establish a savings account on your behalf. As a participant in FSS, as your income increases, a portion of your increased rent will be deposited into the escrow savings account. When you accomplish your goal of self-sufficiency within the period of your contract, you will graduate and receive the money in your escrow savings account.

### How your escrow account works:



*\* Every case is different, please contact an FSS Specialist to learn more about how your escrow account will work*

## Frequently Asked Questions:

### Will participating affect my rental assistance status?

No, nothing you do related to the FSS program will affect your Housing Choice Voucher rental assistance status.

### Where do I sign up?

You can contact the FSS team at [HCDSFSS.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:HCDSFSS.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov)

A member of the team will contact you and you will need to complete a Personal Needs Assessment.

### Does my rent increase by joining this program?

No, the only time your rent changes is when your income changes. The FSS program does not change your rental assistance.

### Can I qualify for the program if I receive TANF, Medi-Cal, SSI, or other benefits?

Yes, you qualify to join the program. Our goal is to help you obtain permanent income and be self-sufficient from cash-aid assistance prior to graduation.



# SUCCESS STORIES



*"By being on this program I was able to accomplish all my goals I had set for myself. By doing that, I have been able to provide a better life for my two wonderful kids.*

*Being able to do that is truly the only goal that mattered."*  
-Erica, FSS Graduate 2022

*"I have accomplished all of my listed goals while participating in the FSS program. I am very proud to finally be financially stable and feel independent to move on in life. I have now a full-time employment with better pay. My credit score is higher and many doors have opened for me. Thank you!"*

-Georgina, FSS Graduate 2022



## Equal Housing Opportunity

The FSS Program is open to all persons regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital or family status, disability, age or any other discriminatory factor.

It is designed to help families with Housing Choice Vouchers to learn about the resources that help them achieve their goals.

*Employment and financial training to help you achieve your goals!*

## How do I Get Started?

Call or Email:



Nicole Knight, FSS Specialist  
[HCDSFSS.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:HCDSFSS.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov)



(858) 694-4897

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## FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM

An opportunity for families with Housing Choice Vouchers to become self-sufficient.