

IF OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS, ARE YOU READY?



If you are under lease and contract with the PMHA's Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, you are eligible to become a participant of the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program.

• WHAT IS THE FSS PROGRAM?

It is a voluntary program designed to assist families in becoming self-supporting so they will no longer need to rely on public assistance. The only requirement is the desire, willingness and commitment to make a change in your life and to take the steps necessary to become self-sufficient. Hundreds of families all over the country are already making better lives for themselves through this program.

• HOW WILL FSS HELP ME?

The FSS Program is a cooperative program that provides support and assistance to your family for up to five years. The head of household enters into an agreement with the PMHA in which an action plan is developed that identifies the family's employment goals. It outlines the activities and services required to achieve these goals. Regular contact with us is essential and will provide opportunities to problem-solve obstacles before they arise. The FSS Coordinator will support you, take an interest in your future and will refer you to public agencies and resources available in Pickaway County.

Gradually, as you accomplish increased degrees of self-sufficiency by working and earning more, your portion of rent may go up. Another advantage to the FSS Program is that as this happens, we will establish an escrow account that will be awarded to you when you've successfully completed your FSS Contract of Participation. This account automatically saves for you and could be a boost in reaching any goals or personal endeavors you may have. You will not have to give up your voucher when the contract is completed, but hopefully you will no longer need assistance at that point. You can even join the FSS Program if you are presently working or are in school.

FSS + YOU = \$\$\$\$

• WHAT 'S THE CATCH?

You must be receiving Section 8 in order to participate in the FSS Program. In order to complete the program, you must make an effort to meet all the goals and activities you've established for your family, be employed full time and be free of "welfare" (OWF) within the last 12 months. Another way of completing the program is to simply increase your household income so that 30% of your monthly income is greater than the Fair Market Rent for your family size.

• WHAT WILL BE REQUIRED OF ME?

COMMITMENT!!!! You will bring your own unique talents, skills and strengths to the FSS Program. We will require you to be determined and committed in completing the activities listed in your training and services plan. You'll need to keep in touch with us regarding your progress towards self-sufficiency. You will be asked to meet with me occasionally in order to discuss and update your goals and activities. You must possess motivation and initiative in your quest for economic independence to make this program beneficial to you.

• WHY JOIN THE FSS PROGRAM?

Joining the program could be the key to your family's success. It is designed to assist families just like yours. People join the FSS Program to learn about work skills and improve their ability to get and maintain employment. Along with the financial incentive is the feeling of pride when your family is free of all public assistance. Our FSS clients, as a whole, make impressive progress towards self-support. Remember – participation in FSS is voluntary and in no way affects your Section 8 assistance.

BE READY WHEN OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS – JOIN FSS. EVERYTHING YOU NEED IS WITHIN YOU.
(To be placed on the FSS wait list, please complete the included form and submit to Lisa Robbins.)



**Pickaway Metropolitan Housing Authority's
Section 8 Family Self-Sufficiency Program
Request to be placed on the FSS Waiting List**

**Are you....Unemployed?
Under-employed?
In School?
Thinking about school or getting your GED?
Affected by welfare reform?**

**Are you currently leasing through
PMHA's Section 8 Voucher Program or holding an active voucher?**

**Then NOW is the time to check out
PMHA's Section 8 Family Self-Sufficiency Program!**

Please note: This form is only for you to express interest in the FSS Program and have your name placed on a waiting list, and in no way obligates you to participate.

Yes, I am interested in learning more about FSS and having my name placed on the FSS waiting list.

Name: _____ Social Security # _____

Address: _____

Phone # _____

Employment Status:

Full Time: _____ (Yes or No) Part Time: _____ (Yes or No)

Name of Employer (s) : _____

School Status: Are you currently in vocational training, GED classes or attending post secondary classes? _____
(yes or no)

If yes, please describe your current schooling situation _____

Signature

Date

For office use only

Contacts: _____
