### **How Does the Escrow Account** Work?

The escrow account is a savings account established when your rent portion increases due to an increase in <u>earned</u>income.

Escrow account contributions are based on a formula established by HUD and may not match rent increases dollar for dollar.

The money received from the escrow account is tax free.

All decisions on disbursements are recommended by the FSS Coordinator and approved by the Program Manager.



Do I Have to Give Up My **Housing Assistance when** the Contract is Completed?

No. You can continue to receive assistance as long as you are eligible.





#### **Loudoun County Department** of Family Services

Housing Choice Voucher

# **Family Self-Sufficiency Program**



### The Family Self-Sufficiency Program

Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) is a voluntary program designed to help HCV program participants achieve economic independence.

This goal is achieved through the interaction of the family with the case manager who coordinates, supports, monitors and links FSS families with public and private services and resources.

Requirements include a desire to become selfsufficient and a commitment to take the steps necessary to make this happen.

#### Why Join FSS?

- Identify goals
- Identify and remove barriers which could prevent achievement of goals
- Identify resources and services that are necessary for success
- Develop a plan to outline specific activities and actions needed to achieve goals
- Receive case management services, encouragement, motivation, and moral support to achieve goals
- \* Opportunity to save for home ownership through an escrow account.

#### **What Support Services are Available?**

In order for FSS participants to successfully accomplish their goals they will need to address the barriers preventing success. The FSS program attempts to provide collaboration with local agencies and service providers to address a wide variety of family issues including:

- \* Child Care
- \* Transportation
- \* Counseling
- \* Job Training
- \* Education
- \* Financial Guidance

#### What's the Catch?

The participating family must enter into a **Contract of Participation** that states the rights and responsibilities
of the family and the Loudoun County Department of
Family Services. The term of the contract is five (5)
years. As a part of the Contract, the family, in conjunction with the FSS Coordinator, will develop an Individual
Training and Services Plan (ITSP).

To complete the program, you must achieve all goals identified in the ITSP, be working, and all household members must be off of cash welfare assistance for at least the last 12 months of the contract.

## How do I Join Family Self-Sufficiency?

like	Self-Sufficiency Program, complete the following
information and return to:	
Housing Choice Voucher FSS Program	
Loudoun County Department of Family Services	
102 Heritage Way, NE, Suite 103	
Leesburg, VA 20176-4544	
Head of Household:	Social Security Number:
Address:	
Phone Number:	Email:
- Date:	Date rec'd by ESSC: