

*Every Accomplishment Starts  
with the Decision to Try!*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Interest (Check all that apply):**

- Finding a Job     Career Exploration
- Budgeting     Start a Savings Account
- Obtain GED/HiSET
- Further Education
- Finding reliable childcare
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Enroll today!**

**Simply, complete this form and mail or fax to:**

#4 Industrial Drive  
St. James, MO 65559  
Fax: 573-265-3550



**Mission Statement of the  
Meramec Regional Planning Commission  
Administrative Agency for the  
Phelps County PHA**

*The mission of MRPC is to enhance the quality of  
life for the residents of the Meramec Region.*



**Fair Housing Hotline  
1-800-669-9777**

**For More Information Contact:**

FSS Coordinator  
#4 Industrial Drive  
St. James, MO 65559  
Phone: 573-265-4200 Ext. 132  
Fax: 573-265-3550  
meramecregion.org

*Call today to begin mapping out your future!*



**Start Today to Make a Better  
Tomorrow**

*A program administered by the  
Phelps County PHA*

*Serving Crawford, Dent, Gasconade, Maries,  
Phelps and Washington counties*



Phelps County Public Housing Agency  
#4 Industrial Drive  
St. James, MO 65559  
573-265-4200

[www.meramecregion.org/phelpscopha](http://www.meramecregion.org/phelpscopha)  
Office Hours: Monday through Friday  
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Updated August 2023

## How does FSS Work?

The Family Self-Sufficiency Program (FSS) is a **five-year, self-paced, voluntary program**, offered to **active participants** receiving rental assistance. The program is based on the goals set by each individual and the case worker. Participants are required to compete their goals within the five-year contract to successfully graduate from the program. **The expectation for each participant is to seek and maintain suitable employment to become financially independent.**

## What does goal setting look like?

Goal setting starts by assessing the individual's immediate needs, such as child care or transportation. The individual and the case worker will then address strengthening education and employment. **The purpose is to build a plan and overcome barriers.** The case worker will network with local agencies to provide the individual with the proper resources, or information, to assist with accomplishing their goals.

## Resources provided may include:

- Case Management
- Credit Counseling and Financial Incentives
- Career Counseling
- Child Care Assistance
- Health Services
- HiSET or Continuing Education Programs
- Job Training
- Support Groups

## How does the savings, or escrow, account work?

As FSS participants' wages increase, their rental assistance decreases. **The amount of the increase in rent is placed in an escrow savings account for each individual FSS participant.** The money in the account, plus interest, is awarded to a participant when he or she successfully completes their FSS contract.

## How Do I Qualify?

- ⇒ **Must be an active participant on the Housing Choice Voucher Program.** In order to enroll, a participant must have an active lease under program to enter into an FSS Contract.
- ⇒ **Have the ability to seek and maintain suitable employment.** Must be employed and free of welfare programs for at least 12 months prior to the expiration of the contract.
- ⇒ **Have the willingness and ability to meet program requirements.**
- ⇒ **Have a personal commitment to achieving their goals and self-improvement.**



*This participant signed up for FSS in June of 2019 and graduated with \$2,017.60 after completing the program early. She was able to obtain a full-time position as a Level 1 Med Aid/Personal Care Aid, purchase a new vehicle and continued her education.*

In November 2017, the program awarded a participant \$17,538.77 in escrow savings. Single mother of two children went from living solely on TANF income to obtaining a certificate in phlebotomy and getting hired full time at a local hospital. In March 2018, she used her savings to assist her in buying a home through the home ownership program.

*Are you ready to start your journey to self-sufficiency?*

