



## **Frederick Douglass Family Self-Sufficiency Center**

The District of Columbia Housing Authority (DCHA) offers numerous self-sufficiency services at the Frederick Douglass Center through its Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program.

### **FSS Program Overview**

Each participant is assigned to an FSS coordinator who meets regularly with the client to help work toward their goals. At the beginning of their participation, clients develop an Individual Training and Service Plan (ITSP) with their FSS coordinator. The intermediary goals are based on three program tracks DCHA offers in addition to a general needs assessment. DCHA offers the following three tracks:

1. Education
2. Employment
3. Homeownership

To assist clients with reaching their goals, the following services are available:

- Case management with their assigned FSS coordinator;
- Referrals to services;
- Credit counseling;
- Financial literacy training;
- Homeownership preparation;
- Employment services.

Clients graduate upon completion of their ITSP. FSS is a five to seven year program.

### **Program Benefits**

Clients accrue escrow as they accomplish intermediary goals. Escrow is dispersed upon graduation or for approved exceptions to eligible clients. Escrow must be used to further clients' self-sufficiency goals.

### **Program Eligibility**

Clients must meet the following criteria in order to participate in FSS:

- Head of household in DCHA's Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) or public housing.
- In order to graduate, the client cannot be on any cash-assistance program.

Eligible clients are entered onto the waitlist and are accepted into the program as space becomes available.

**For more program information, please contact us at (202) 535-1517.**