WHAT'S HOLDING YOU BACK? WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Complete this form, clip it out on the dotted line, and mail or return it to: ATCOG Family Self-Sufficiency Program ATTN: Daneshia Walton, FSS Coordinator 4808 Elizabeth St. Texarkana, TX 75503

This does <u>not</u> enroll you in the FSS program, but you will receive additional information where you can decide if your family will benefit from this program.

(PLEASE PRINT)

Date:	
First Name:	
Last Name:	
Address:	_
City, State, Zip:	_
Phone:	
Email:	
Language spoken at home:	
— I HOUD	
☐ I am a HCV Program participant	



NEED ENCOURAGEMENT?
NEED SUPPORT?
NEED GUIDEANCE?
WE'RE HERE TO HELP
YOU INVEST IN YOURSELF!

Daneshia Walton, Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinator 903.255.3559 <u>dwalton@atcog.org</u> Ark-Tex Council of Governments

Family Self-Sufficiency Program

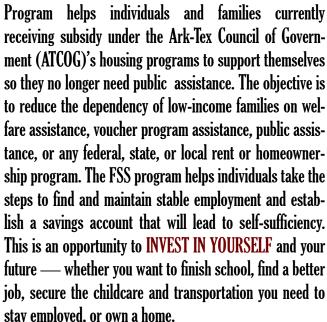
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

The primary goal of ATCOG is to improve the quality of life for all citizens of the region on behalf of regional governmental organizations by providing a perspective on information and problem solving and by coordinating funding, resources, programs and services.



What is the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program?

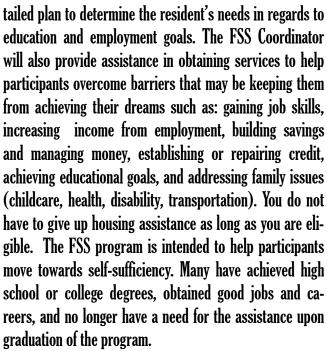
The Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS)



Participation in the FSS Program is voluntary. The program is a five (5) year program that is open to eligible adults currently in the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program. If you currently have a Housing Choice Voucher, able to work, and want to become self-sufficient, you may be eligible to participate. Participants should have a desire to become self-sufficient and a willingness to take the necessary steps to make it happen.

How does FSS work?

The designated Head of Household for an eligible family who is in the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program will enter into an agreement with ATCOG by signing a Contract of Participation. The resident will meet with the FSS Coordinator to form a de-





What are the benefits of the FSS Program?

Services available through local services providers to assist residents with meeting FSS goals include:

- ⇒ GED preparation and other education programs
- ⇒ Job search and career counseling
- ⇒ Technical and vocational training
- ⇒ Childcare and transportation
- ⇒ Financial planning
- ⇒ Financial literacy workshops
- ⇒ Escrow savings account
- ⇒ Become self-sufficiency

How does the FSS savings account work?

ATCOG establishes an interest-bearing escrow (savings) account for each FSS participating family. Any increases in the family's rent as a result of increased earned income during the family's participation in the program results in a credit to



the family's escrow account. The money in the account, plus interest, is received by participants at the completion and successful graduation of the program. The family can decide how the money can best serve the future of their family. Some families choose to use the money to reach goals for education, debt reduction, reliable transportation, and even towards home ownership.