



# Family Self Sufficiency Program: The Pathway to Success

Presented by Rebecca Stancil  
Rsconsulting and Sierra Lowney  
Missoula Housing Authority

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# The Family Self Sufficiency Program: The Pathway to Success

- What is The Family Self Sufficiency Program?
- What is the special ingredient to a successful program?
- What impact has this program had with WIOA and in the Missoula Community?
- How can you coordinate with the FSS Program in your community?
- Community Development: Project Employment Connect



# Family Self Sufficiency Program (FSS)

## History

- Project Self Sufficiency and Operation Bootstrap were pilot programs implemented between 1986-1990.
- The National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 created The Family Self Sufficiency Program.
- Later, The Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 modified FSS Regulations.

## What is FSS

- The FSS program is an employment and asset building program.
- The FSS Coordinators assist participants in creating goals that will help improve their economic security.
- As participants increase their income, an escrow account is created monthly deposits are made.



The FSS program serves:

Families in the Housing Choice Voucher program, living in public housing or in HUD-assisted multifamily developments

# Setting Goals and Reducing Barriers

## Obtain Employment

- Complete job training program
- Create Resume

## Transportation

- Obtain Drivers License
- Save for a Vehicle

## Improve Credit Score

- Obtain a credit report
- Review report with credit counselor
- Create a financial plan

# Setting Goals and Reducing Barriers

## Health Care

- Gain access to health care

## ChildCare

- Gain access to childcare financial assistance

## Legal

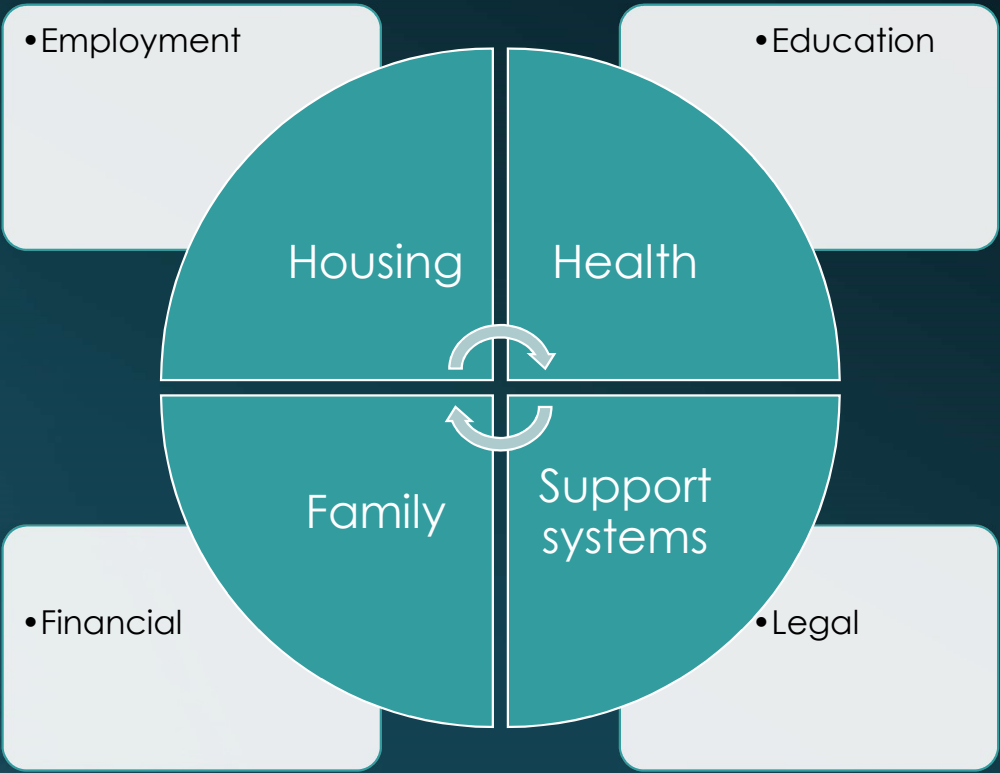
- Obtain legal assistance
- Address fines

# FSS's Special Ingredient

Program Coordinating Committee (PCC):

The PCC provides a mechanism for getting service providers interested in the FSS program and committed to helping the program to meet the needs of FSS participants. Made up of public and private agencies all working together to ensure success of our participants. The PCC can discuss and implement strategies to align services, ensure that there are no gaps, and conserve scarce resources.

# Program Coordinating Committee Community Partners





Activity: Work with a team to develop a list of agencies or businesses that you are currently collaborating with in your community. What key players are missing?

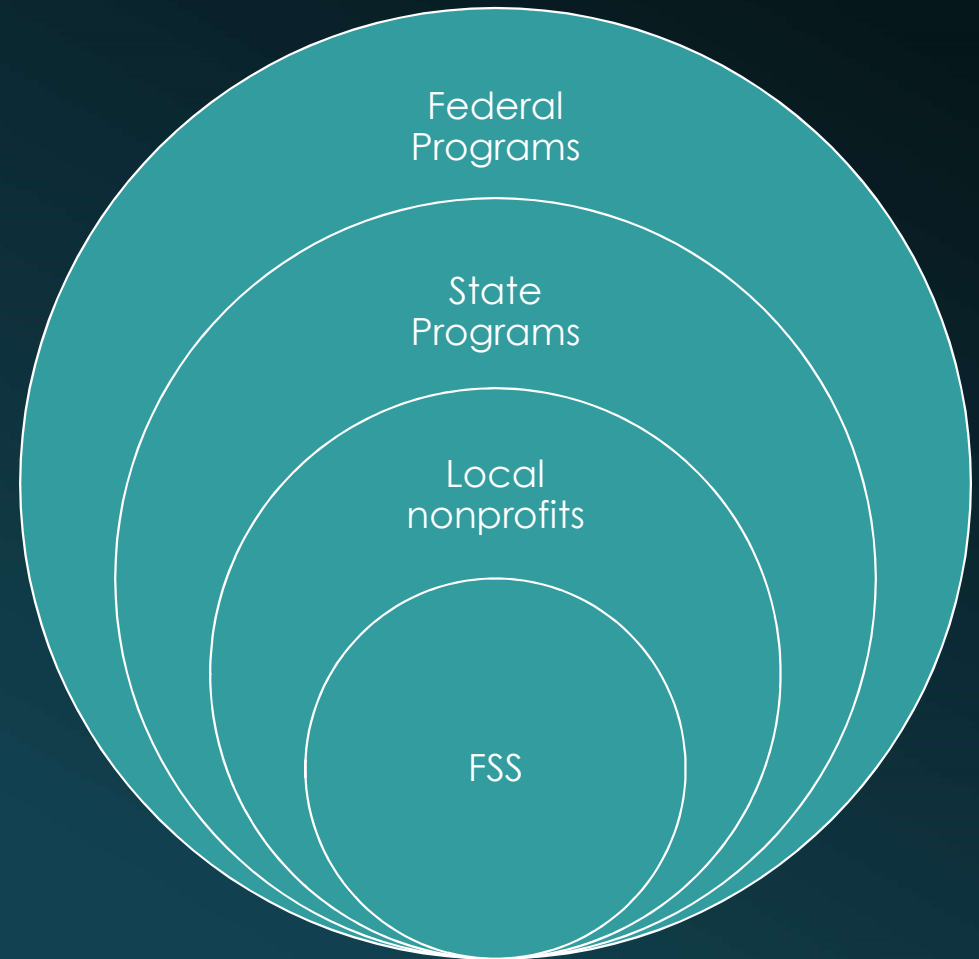
# Missoula Housing Program Coordinating Committee



# How Does The FSS Program impact WIOA

FSS is an integral piece to a state's WIOA plan. FSS has proven success by providing case management to low to moderate income families and individuals with a multitude of barriers.

- Best Practices: Missoula's Cross Training Academy





## Positive Impacts

- Increase in number of FSS participants moving off housing assistance.
- Collaboration with community housing partners decreases the number of homeless.
- Collaboration with employers increases successful job placement.
- Increased income allows participants to focus on financial planning including homeownership.



# Project Employment Connect

- One Stop Service Delivery Model
- Includes all sectors: Federal, State, City, Non-Profit, For-Profit and Faith Based Community
- Job Fair, employment programs, resume creation, mock interview support, hair cuts, interview clothing, birth certificates and ID's, lunch, job seeker goody bags, etc.
- Supported by community volunteers



## How can you become a partner of FSS?

Contact your local Public Housing Authority

Reach out to your local Community Management Team

Connect with your states Workforce Investment Board

# Share 2018 Awards Information and 25 Year Anniversary Paper Link

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/fss/25-years/>

[https://www.hud.gov/press/press\\_releases\\_media\\_advisories/HUD\\_No\\_19\\_010](https://www.hud.gov/press/press_releases_media_advisories/HUD_No_19_010)

# Questions and Answers

Thank you for allowing Sierra and Rebecca to present this amazing program to you.