



HHSC Memorandum Neighborhood Resources Department- Memo No. HD24-09

Date: June 5, 2024

To: Housing and Human Services Commission

Thru: Leah Powell, Neighborhood Resources Director

From: Amy Jacobson, Housing and Redevelopment Senior Manager

Subject: Resolution No. HO179 Approving the City of Chandler Housing and Redevelopment Family Self Sufficiency Action Plan Effective July 1, 2024, and Certifying Compliance with the Related United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Regulations, and Further Directing All Other Action Necessary to Carry Out the Purposes of this Resolution

Recommendation: Staff proposes to the Housing and Human Services Commission (HHSC) members the recommendation to the Public Housing Authority Commission (PHAC) the approval of the submission of Family Self Sufficiency Action Plan Effective July 1, 2024, and Certifying Compliance with the Related United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Regulations, and Further Directing All Other Action Necessary to Carry Out the Purposes of this Resolution.

Background: The FSS Program is a voluntary program designed to assist low-income families participating in Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher programs (Section 8 Program) in achieving economic independence and self-sufficiency through goal setting and specialized case management. The goals may include education and job training, money management, career advancement, improved life skills, and preparation for homeownership. Participants are considered self-sufficient and able to graduate when goals are accomplished and/or their income exceeds rental subsidy program limits, including being off welfare cash assistance for a minimum of 12 months. FSS is up to a five-year program, including two one-year extensions. Currently, there are a total of 120 participants enrolled in the FSS Program, with 60 participants from Public Housing and 60 participants from Section 8.

An annual grant from HUD provides funding for two full-time FSS positions. The Housing Division has participated in this program since 2000.

Discussion: The FSS Program is available to qualified individuals and families in the Public Housing and Section 8 programs and each program has its own assigned staff person to provide case management. A participant may choose not to continue with the FSS Program and still maintain housing assistance. Generally, participants who have zero or extremely low income, attending college or a training program, or whose financial circumstances are anticipated to change positively due to earned income, are ideal candidates for this program since there is the potential for their earned income to increase. As a Participant's earned income increases and their rental portion increases, the housing assistance payments saved is the amount put into an interest-bearing escrow account. Once a Participant has met their goals, the escrow balance will then be released to them, better preparing the Participant to be more self-sufficient.

Financial Implications: HUD provides funding for the two (2) FSS Specialist positions.

Proposed Motion: Move to recommend Resolution No. HO179 Approving the City of Chandler Housing and Redevelopment Family Self Sufficiency Action Plan Effective July 1, 2024, and Certifying Compliance with the Related United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Regulations, and Further Directing All Other Action Necessary to Carry Out the Purposes of this Resolution.

Attachments:

Resolution HO179
FSS Annual Plan