

Metro Housing provides families with knowledge, skills and financial tools to help them move along the continuum toward long-term economic security.

This is an overview of Metro Housing's economic security programs.

FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY (FSS)

FSS is a voluntary program designed to help families with Section 8 vouchers achieve increased economic self-sufficiency over a five-year period. It is jointly managed by Metro Housing and **Compass Working Capital**.

FSS participants work toward self-identified goals focused on education, workforce development, and asset building. They receive one-on-one counseling, and have the opportunity to build an escrow account if their earned income increases.

FSS participants are matched with an FSS Advisor at Compass Working Capital to provide one-on-one coaching and assistance with reaching their goals. This can include financial literacy, credit help, education, job skills, and career guidance. Participants can graduate from FSS in five years if they have met their goals of obtaining employment and have not received public assistance benefits during the past 12 months.

For more information, contact **Marie Joseph** at marie.joseph@MetroHousingBoston.org.

FAMILY ECONOMIC STABILITY (FES)

FES is a time-limited, rental assistance program designed to help families reach economic stability through intensive case-management and support while saving for the future.

Eligible families can receive a flat rate monthly rental subsidy payment of up to \$1,320 depending on household size. Families are also eligible for \$1,800 per year for expenses related to maintaining employment and continuing education goals as developed in their Service Plan.

Participants must be a legal resident of the United States and have a child under 18. They must be working and earning wages at least part-time (12 hours/week or more); or be imminently employed (with an offer letter) or have been working in the last six months.

Applications for the FES waiting list are being accepted. Please fill out the application found on the Metro Housing website and submit to **Carolyn Williams** at carolyn.williams@MetroHousingBoston.org.

GREEN SPACE FINANCIAL COACHING

Green Space is a financial literacy and housing stabilization program for families and individuals in Greater Boston who have low or moderate incomes.

Green Space provides workshops and one-on-one financial coaching with no time limits, focusing on each participant's financial priorities. Green Space also provides housing stabilization case management services as needed.

Coaching covers topics based on individual needs, including: financial readiness, budgeting, banking and saving, credit and debt, and financial goals.

Participants may benefit if they have a new job or increased pay, are behind on rent or utility payments, are trying to reduce debt, or feel stuck when it comes to managing their finances.

To schedule a financial coaching session, contact **Shawn Judge** at shawn.judge@MetroHousingBoston.org.



METRO HOUSING|BOSTON
Helps families and individuals address their housing needs across the continuum toward economic security.

FSS BY THE NUMBERS (FY21)

- 99 participants in the program
- Distributed a total of \$443,590 in escrow savings

FES BY THE NUMBERS (FY21)

- 54 families participated in FES
- \$114,651 was held in escrow for participants

Since its inception in 2018, **Green Space** has helped **304 families** improve their financial standing through the **Green Space Financial Coaching** program.