

FSS NEWSLETTER



Summer 2023

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FSS Coordinator
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Self Sufficiency and
Homeownership
Coordinator

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134 East 2nd St
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New Rules Benefit FSS Participants

It is not too late to take advantage of the new FSS program rules! Some of the rule changes are:

- Contract expiration dates will extend to 5 years from the date of the first recertification of income after the start date of the contract. This means participants will be able to stay on the program longer and potentially earn more escrow!
- Participants will no longer need to be free of cash assistance for 12 months prior to graduation. Now participants will only need to be free of cash assistance at the time of graduation.
- Monthly escrow credits can continue to grow if a family is between 50% and 80% of the area median income. This means participants may be able to earn a higher amount of escrow.
- The definition of “good cause” for a contract extension is broader. Participants may be able to extend their contract if they need more time to complete a goal.

If you would like to participate in FSS under the new rules, you just need to sign an updated contract of participation. It is that easy!

Contact Tressa Sauke, the Self Sufficiency and Homeownership Coordinator, to schedule a time to review and sign an updated contract of participation. Simply call 651-565-2638 ext. 204 or email tsauke@semmchra.org to get the process started.

Quarterly Progress Reports Due

Please be watching your email for your FSS quarterly progress form. Completion of this form is required for continued participation in the FSS program.

The quarterly update is a great opportunity to review your goals and let the FSS Coordinator know if any changes need to be made or if you need any additional resources to help you achieve your goals.



EXCITING NEWS!!!

SECTION 8 GOES PAPERLESS

SEMMCHRA is pleased to announce that the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) has gone paperless and now has a secure resident portal system where participants can access at their convenience 24/7.

Effectively immediately, Section 8 will now be sending all correspondence and rent statements through email and the resident portal.

Voucher participants now can submit income and family changes using our “report a change button” on the online portal.

To access the portal, go to www.semmchra.us

If you have any questions about the resident portal, please contact the Section 8 department at 651-565-2638, press 2.



Helpful Hints

Have you checked your credit report lately? Reviewing your credit report at least once per year is one way to protect yourself from identity theft. Identity theft cost U.S. consumers 8.8 billion dollars in 2022 alone.

To access a free copy of your credit report visit <https://www.annualcreditreport.com>. You will be able to access free copies of your credit report from all three credit bureaus: TransUnion, Equifax, and Experian.



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134 East Second Street
Wabasha MN 55981
P: 651-565-2638
F: 651-565-3836
<https://www.semmchra.org/>

Community Resources

Employment Resources

CareerForce in Winona
Minnesota State College-Southeast
1250 Homer Rd #200
Winona MN 55987
P: 507-205-6060
<https://www.careerforcemn.com/winona>

Workforce Development, Inc.-Kasson
504 S Mantorville Ave Ste #4
Kasson MN 55944
P: 877-778-2227
<https://workforcedevelopmentinc.org>

Workforce Development, Inc.-Red Wing
308 Pioneer Road
Red Wing MN 55066
P: 800-584-6753
<https://workforcedevelopmentinc.org>

Workforce Development, Inc.-Wabasha
329 Hiawatha Dr E Ste #3
Wabasha MN 55981
P: 800-657-5105
<https://workforcedevelopmentinc.org>

Workforce Development, Inc.-Caledonia
110 East Grove Street
Caledonia MN 55921
P: 800-657-4629
<https://workforcedevelopmentinc.org>

Workforce Development, Inc.-Preston
100 South Main Street SE
Preston MN 55965
P: 800-584-6770
<https://workforcedevelopmentinc.org>

Energy Assistance

SEMCAC
204 South Elm Street
P.O. Box 549
Rushford MN 55971
P: 507-864-7741
<https://www.semcac.org>

Three Rivers Community Action
1414 North Star Drive
Zumbrota MN 55992
P: 507-316-0610
<https://www.threeriverscap.org>