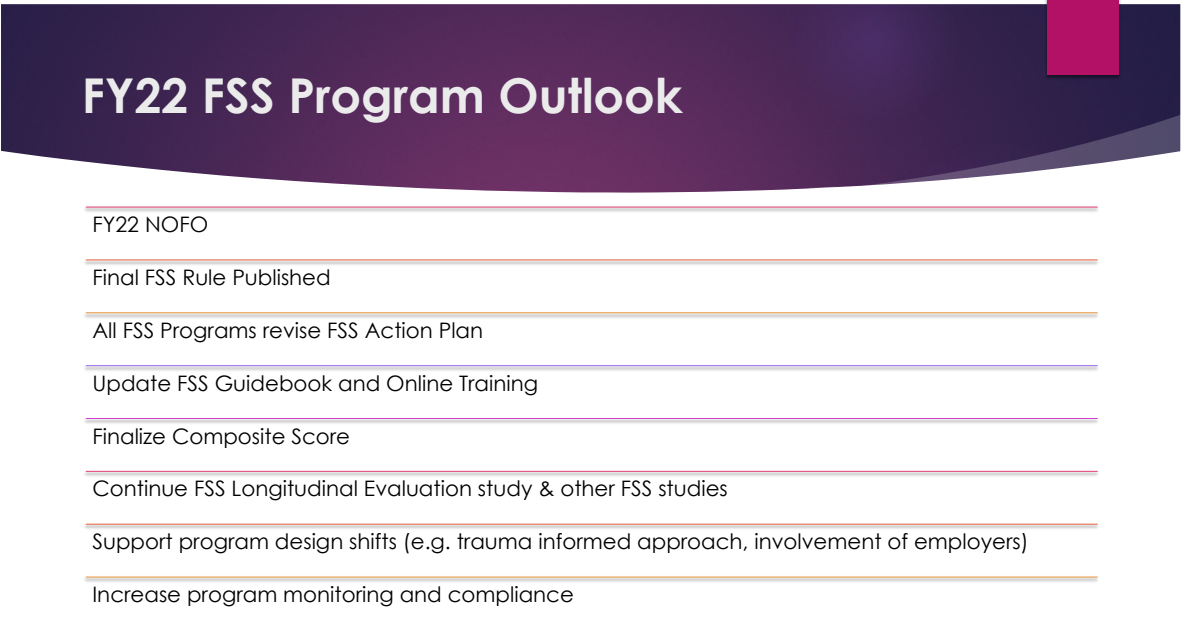




FSS Update

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1



FY22 FSS Program Outlook

- FY22 NOFO
- Final FSS Rule Published
- All FSS Programs revise FSS Action Plan
- Update FSS Guidebook and Online Training
- Finalize Composite Score
- Continue FSS Longitudinal Evaluation study & other FSS studies
- Support program design shifts (e.g. trauma informed approach, involvement of employers)
- Increase program monitoring and compliance

2

Legislative Heads-Up

- ▶ FY22 Funding for renewal and new programs
- ▶ Composite score language in Senate vs House FY22 mark-ups
- ▶ Senate mark-up committee report re: expansion positions

3

FSS Final Rule – What's Next?

Final Rule published in Federal Register

- Final Rule Webinar

New Contract of Participation Form (HUD-52650)

New SAMPLE Escrow Calculation Worksheet

- Webinar on Escrow Calculation

Sample FSS Action Plan

- Webinar on FSS Action Plan

Updated Guidebook

Updated online training and quiz

- Requirement to re-take online training

4

Upcoming Technical Assistance Webinar Series



Trauma-Informed Care
Program Design Best
Practices



Motivational Interviewing



Building Regional Service
Coordinator Networks



Selecting & Training Staff
+ Leadership
Development, Motivation,
and Vicarious Trauma



Recruitment and
Retention of participants



Using data to Improve
Your Program & Tell Your
Story

5

Current Important Issues

6

FY22 FSS NOFO

- ▶ Published August 3, 2022
- ▶ Due October 3, 2022
- ▶ Renewal AND New program
- ▶ PHAs AND PBRA owners

7

Eligible Uses

- ▶ Number of coordinators for which you were funded
- ▶ Training stipend in fringe

8

Participant Count

- ▶ In FY21 NOFO, everyone got a “grace” year.
- ▶ In FY22 – another grace year
 - ▶ Get your participant count (enrollment, progress, exit 50058 Section 17) into PIC by ASAP anyway!!

9

HCV/PH Program Functions

HCV or PH Program Functions: *Per the FY 2021 FSS NOFA*, the FSS Coordinator may perform routine HCV and/or PH program functions, such as annual reexaminations for FSS participants, on a limited basis and only if the use of the FSS funds enhances the effectiveness of the FSS Program. This provision is to be employed only to the extent that these functions do not interfere with the FSS Program Coordinator’s ability to fully fulfill the role of the FSS Program Coordinator as their primary work. Performance of routine HCV and/or PH functions for non-FSS families does not enhance the effectiveness of the FSS program and is therefore an ineligible use of FSS funds. Additionally, per the FY 2020 FSS NOFA, while FSS funds may be used to perform some homeownership functions for FSS families, this may not be the sole function for which funds are used. Sections IV.F.2.b and IV.F.2.c of the FY 2020 FSS NOFA describe the requirements that must be met for these activities to be eligible.

- ▶ ***Grantees requesting to have the FSS coordinator perform HCV/PH program functions must submit, to its local HUD Field Office, a narrative justification, explaining the routine HCV and/or PH program function(s) performed by the FSS Program Coordinator, how it will enhance the effectiveness of the FSS program, and why it does not impede the ability of the FSS Program Coordinator(s) to effectively perform FSS functions. The Grantee must also certify that the function(s) is not performed for non-FSS families. Once the Grantee has received approval from its local HUD Field Office to complete these activities and has certified they will not perform them for non-FSS families, they are not required to submit this justification on an annual basis, i.e. Grantees only need this approval one time.***

10

COVID waivers

<https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/PIH/documents/Round6FAQsfinal.pdf>

▶ GA11. I have a Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program participant who is at the end of their two-year Contract of Participation (CoP) extension. Can I use the waiver described in PH and HCV-6 from PIH Notice 2020-13 REV-1 to extend their CoP for longer than 7 years? (Updated 9-29-20)

▶ A. No. The authority made available under the CARES Act and implemented through PIH Notice 2020-13, REV-1 only allows you to consider COVID-19 as "good cause" in granting the normal extension (up to 2 years). The CARES Act did not provide HUD the authority to offer a blanket waiver to 24 CFR 984.303(d), which states that extensions may be up to 2 years. If a PHA has a participant who is nearing the end of the second year of extension and, except for COVID-19, would meet the requirements for graduation, please follow the standard process to request a waiver through the HUD field office, which then submits a recommendation to HUD Headquarters (HQ), as described in PIH Notice 2018-16.

<https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/PIH/documents/PIH-2018-16.pdf>

11

FSS Final Rule

12

Statutory Changes

- ▶ **Permanently expand to Multi-Family (PBRA) owners**
 - ▶ MF-only programs or Cooperative Agreement with PHA
 - ▶ PHAs w Cooperative Agreement can use NOFO funds to serve PBRA FSS participants
- ▶ **FSS Graduates from any rental program count toward reduction in HCV mandatory program size (Permanent)**
- ▶ **Codify funding formula into law**
- ▶ **Eliminate the reduction in escrow for families between 50% and 80% AMI**
- ▶ **Make period of eligibility for funds 3 years (will allow re-captured funding to be used again for new awards)**

13

13

Statutory Changes

- ▶ Old statute required Contract of Participation be signed (and completed) by Head of Household
 - ▶ **New Statute reads that the CoP may be signed by any member of the family.**
- ▶ Old statute had the CoP lasting 5 years from execution of CoP.
 - ▶ **New statute has CoP lasting 5 years from first re-certification after execution of CoP**
- ▶ Old statute had forfeited escrow go back to Op Fund or HAP
 - ▶ **New statute says forfeited escrow "shall be used by the eligible entity for the benefit of participating families in good standing."**

14

14

Non-Statutory Proposed Changes

- ▶ Remove requirement for family to be welfare-free for 12 months
- ▶ Eliminate 120-day re-certification Rule
- ▶ Eliminate 30% Rule (alternative graduation)
- ▶ Expand the definition of “good cause” for CoP extension. Included to allow for educational goals, career advancement and additional steps toward self-sufficiency
- ▶ Ports
- ▶ Disposition in case of Permanent Disability

15

15

Impacts of COVID across CSS Programs

Opportunities

- ▶ Many PHAs shifted to remote systems for files, enrollments, etc.
- ▶ Many programs expanded systems and skills for remote engagement
- ▶ Used outreach around meeting immediate needs as opening to build relationships and connect with families for enrollment at opportune moment
- ▶ Sometimes, virtual meetings/programming have increased participation (e.g., transportation, childcare not needed)

Challenges

- ▶ Significant job loss
- ▶ Inability to meet in person; how to maintain engagement
- ▶ CSS programs impacted by overall changes in PHA operations
- ▶ Resident health, connectivity and childcare, children at home for virtual school

16

Other Current CSS Projects

- ▶ 20-month financial empowerment Communities of Practice available to select Jobs Plus and ROSS cohorts
- ▶ 4-part webinar series for Financial Capability Month, integrating the American Rescue Plan. <https://www.hud.gov/strongfamilies>
- ▶ Ongoing PIH COVID-19 newsletter and webinar series on how PHAs can build partnerships for vaccine confidence, access, and distribution
- ▶ Connect Home USA webinar on FCC's new Emergency Broadband Benefit Program <https://connecthomeusa.org/>
- ▶ [Healthy Together: A Toolkit for Health Center Collaborations with HUD-Assisted Housing and Community-Based Organizations.](#)

17

Key Resources

Program	Resource	Location
Jobs Plus	Jobs Plus Evaluation Reports	https://www.mdrc.org/project/jobs-plus-community-revitalization-initiative-public-housing-families#overview
FSS	FSS Program Guidebook	https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/FSS-Program-Guidebook.pdf
FSS	Key Documents, Resources & Research	https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/fss
ROSS	Running ROSS Step-by-Step	https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/ross/guide/introduction/
ConnectHome	ConnectHome Playbook	https://connecthome.hud.gov/playbook
Reentry	It Starts with Housing	https://www.hud.gov/sites/documents/HUD_IT_STARTS_WITH_HOUSING.PDF
HUD Strong Families	Registration & Information	https://www.hud.gov/strongfamilies

18

Questions?

- ▶ FSS Resources
https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/fss
- ▶ FSS@HUD.gov
- ▶ FSS listserv - HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing - Destination (govdelivery.com)