

FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM OF MANATEE COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY Serving Hardee and DeSoto County

Family Self-Sufficiency Program...a unique federally funded program; designed for low income students who desire economic self-sufficiency through work and full time educational commitment in approved areas of study.

The Family Development Specialist will provide coaching and support to:

- ✓ Assist with, or facilitate connections to resources such as:
 - Housing
 - Child Care
 - Utility Assistance
 - Education
 - Personal and Career Counseling
 - Financial Literacy
 - Resume' Writing
 - Interviewing Skills and Techniques

- ✓ Assist families to develop plans to reach personal and career-related goals.
- ✓ Provide ongoing coaching and support as individuals' progress through the phases of the program.

IS IT FOR ME?

Individuals who apply for this program will:

- ✓ Have demonstrated a commitment to attain self-sufficiency through employment and a full time educational pursuit.
- ✓ Fall within these family income guidelines as of **April 1, 2016**

Number of People in the Household	Total Income No Greater Than
1	\$14,850
2	\$ 20,025
3	\$ 25,200
4	\$ 30,375
5	\$ 35,550
6	\$ 40,725
7	\$ 45,913
8	\$ 51,113
Add this amount for each additional person	\$5,200

- ✓ Have completed schooling through the 12th grade or higher, or earned a state approved GED
- ✓ Reside in Hardee or DeSoto County
- ✓ Be employed 20 hours per week, or be participating in mandatory educational clinicals.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Individuals who are interested in participating in the Family Self-Sufficiency Program can:

- ✓ Complete the attached Interest Survey and return it to Maria Cruz-Morgan at the contact information listed below.
- ✓ An orientation meeting will be scheduled in which you will receive more information on the objectives and requirements of the Family Self-Sufficiency Program. At that time you will have an opportunity to ask any questions you might have so that you can understand fully the scope of the program.
- ✓ Those who are interested in applying for selection into the program will receive an application for admission.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I APPLY?

The selection process for the Family Self-Sufficiency Program includes the following three steps:

- ✓ Applicants who meet the criteria for participation in the program will be scheduled for an individual interview with the Selection Committee which consists of the Executive Director of Manatee Community Action Agency, The Family Development Manager, and the Family Development Specialist.
- ✓ Applicants who have been selected for an interview must bring with them two professional letters of recommendation which include comments about the applicant's motivation and ability to complete the Family Self-Sufficiency Program.
- ✓ Final selection of Family Self-Sufficiency Program participants, will be made by the Selection Committee. All applicants who participate in the interview process will be notified by mail that they either have or have not been selected for participation in the program.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I AM ACCEPTED?

- ✓ Ongoing scheduled appointments.
- ✓ Positive support through coaching, guidance and joint problem solving.
- ✓ Referral to appropriate community agencies when needed.
- ✓ Appropriate economic support.

HOW LONG WILL I REMAIN IN THE PROGRAM?

Program services can continue for up to five years as long as the participant is working and going to school, and meeting program requirements. Program participants who become economically self-sufficient and no longer have the need for any form of government assistance will have successfully completed the Family Self-Sufficiency Program!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Family Development Specialist
202 North 6th Avenue, P.O. Box 628
Wauchula, Florida 33873
Manatee Community Action Agency
Office: 863-448-9203
Fax: 863-448-4475
Cell: 941-518-3691
Helping People, Changing Lives