

## Most Recent Family Self-Sufficiency Graduates

The Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program of the Alexander City Housing Authority has successfully graduated ten local women from the FSS program since December 2013 up until April 2015 thus bringing the total number of graduates to 33.

These ten women all graduated with a certificate of completion as well as an escrow savings check, bringing the total amount of money issued between them to \$35,126.26.

Each one of these women accomplish some goals they set for themselves, from earning promotions at work, to full-time employment with healthcare benefits, college degrees or certificates, creating and maintaining budgets, and establishing an escrow account.

Four of the participants left the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program.

One graduate earned a store manager position at Sports Academy which required her to relocate to north Alabama. She received \$565.62 in escrow.

There was also another recent graduate who received a store manager position at The Shoe Department. She received an escrow check for the amount of \$2,706.86.

Another graduate earned a degree in Radiology Technology from Trenholm Technical College of Montgomery, AL. She received an escrow check for the amount of \$2,968.44

One graduate, who came on the FSS program in October of 2014, landed a part-time job at the local car parts manufacturing company C&J Tech in November 2014 through a temp agency. She also worked part-time at a local fast food chain at the same time. By the second week of March 2015, she was employed full-time by C&J Tech. She received an escrow check for the amount of \$560.29

Another graduate was utilizing her Medical Assistant certification at a local doctor's office full-time and was also a full-time student working towards her RN degree. She received an escrow check for the amount of \$3,670.16

One graduate utilized her Cosmetology degree and became the store manager for Smart Styles hair salon located inside a Wal-Mart. She received an escrow check for the amount of \$1,600.74

Another graduate who received an escrow check for the amount of \$7,529.51 received a full-time job at a local cabinet manufacturing company.

One graduate relocated to her home town of Lanett, AL after graduating with an escrow check of \$4,198.58. She commuted to West Point, GA every day for a full-time job as a customer service specialist for InterCall, an audio, web, and video conferencing service provider.

The most escrow awarded thus far was to a graduate who was employed full-time at the local car parts manufacturing company, SL Alabama. This young lady earned \$10,259.67 in escrow while

on the FSS program for four and half years. She worked about 50 to 75 hours a week, sometimes even working the weekends with no off days.

One graduate received an escrow check for the amount of \$1,066.39. She came on to the program in November 2013 with a Bachelor's degree in Social Work, which she earned in May 2008 and also had her LPN, which she received in May 2013. This young lady was unable to secure a job in either of these fields. She took part-time work at a local fast food chain only making \$7.25 an hour and could not get full-time hours because the company did not want to give her healthcare benefits. By January 2014, this young lady received a full-time job as an LPN at the local veteran's home making \$16.50 with healthcare benefits. Two months later, she wrote a letter to the HCV supervisor and FSS Coordinator. She related in the letter that if she had she not been on the program she "would not had been able to survive independently." She wrote on to say thank you to them for allowing her to "better her life" for herself and her son.