

## Self-Assessment

If you answer **Yes** to any of the following, Brown County NEK-CAP, Inc. - Housing Authority can help you and your family plan for a better future!

Do you want?

Future Independence?

Yes  No

To own your own home?

Yes  No

To gain financial independence:

Yes  No

*The Family Self- Sufficiency Program can help you open the door to success.*



For more information about the FSS Program, please contact:

NEK-CAP, Inc. Housing Dept.  
Mary Webb, FSS Program Cord.  
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Hiawatha, KS 66434  
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**SELF-SUFFICIENCY** is  
Not something you wait for  
it's something you PLAN

### Goal Setting

**S - Specific**  
**M - Measurable**  
**A - Attainable**  
**R - Relevant**  
**T - Time - Bound**

NEK-CAP, Inc.'s VISON  
One by one all individuals, families and  
communities become self-reliant.



NEK-CAP, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Updated 3/23/2021

# NEK-CAP, Inc.

*We provide comprehensive education and social services to low-income community members through collaborative partnerships focused on promoting the development of individuals and families, empowerment, and economic security.*



**Brown County/ NEK-CAP, Inc. Housing Authority - Housing Choice Voucher ~ Family Self-Sufficiency Program**



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## How Does FSS Work? About the Program

The FSS Program is a five-year, self-paced, voluntary program designed to assist Housing Choice Voucher participants achieve economic independence. Participants require a personal commitment by each individual to develop goals that will lead to self-sufficiency. In exchange, participants will receive supportive services and the opportunity to earn an escrow savings account.

### These goals may include:

- 👉 Education
- 👉 Specialized training
- 👉 Job readiness and job placement activities
- 👉 Career advancement objectives
- 👉 Mentoring
- 👉 Home Buyer education

### Escrow Account

The incentive of the FSS Program is a special escrow account that is set up for each participant. As the participants earned income goes up, the rental assistance subsidy remains the same, with the remaining money deposited monthly into a savings account. This account belongs to the participant and is dispersed upon graduation from the program. While participating, families may borrow from their savings account one time a year to help meet their personalized goals. Each

graduate decides how this money can best serve the future of their family.

### Requirements

#### Participants Must:

1. Seek and Maintain employment. Must be employed six months prior to the expiration of the contract and be Welfare-free of cash benefits for one year prior to the expiration of the FSS contract.
2. Be the head of household and have the willingness and ability to meet program requirements.
3. Work closely with a case manager to develop and carry out personal goals individualized by the participant.

### How Does the Savings Account Work?

When rent increases due to higher earnings, a percentage of the increase may be placed in a savings account for FSS participants. The money in the account, plus interest, is received by participants when the FSS contract has been successfully completed. In some cases, FSS participants use the money to reach goals for education, debt reduction, reliable transportation and even homeownership. Once they receive the savings account, FSS graduates choose how to use the money.



*“Happiness belongs to the self-sufficient” ~ Aristotle*

## Do I Have to Give Up Housing Assistance?

No. FSS Participants continue to receive housing assistance as long as they are eligible. The FSS program is intended to help participants move towards self-sufficiency. Many have achieved high school or college degrees and obtained good jobs and careers.

### Climb Life's Ladder



### What are Your Next Steps?

Serving the following counties: Atchison (except Atchison City limits), Brown, Doniphan, Jackson, Jefferson, Marshall, and Nemaha.