



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **HANO Secures Renewal of Family Self-Sufficiency Program Grant from HUD**

*Empowering Residents Beyond Housing to Achieve Lasting Independence*

January 7, 2025 – New Orleans, LA – The Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) proudly announces the renewal of funding for its Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program, awarded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This funding ensures HANO can continue providing vital resources and support to HUD-assisted residents, empowering them to achieve financial independence and long-term self-sufficiency.

As part of this renewal, HANO is expanding its capacity to serve residents by maintaining its existing FSS Coordinator positions and adding two additional positions. This growth allows HANO to strengthen its efforts in guiding residents toward self-sufficiency. With this funding, HANO now has a total of four FSS Coordinators—funded by both HANO and by HUD grants—positioning the agency to serve even more participants in its mission to foster independence and stability.

HANO's commitment extends beyond providing affordable housing; the agency actively equips residents with the tools and resources they need to build brighter futures. Through the FSS Program, participants gain access to tailored support, fostering progress in areas such as employment, education, and financial stability.

HANO's FSS Program empowers participants to:

- **Find Employment:** Access job training and career placement services.
- **Increase Income:** Gain skills to secure higher-paying opportunities.
- **Complete Education:** Pursue certifications, vocational training, or higher education.
- **Improve Financial Management:** Build financial literacy and stability.
- **Acquire Assets:** Save for major investments such as a home, vehicle, or small business.

Each enrollee works closely with an FSS Coordinator to create personalized plans with measurable goals. Participants also benefit from interest-bearing escrow accounts, enabling them to build savings through earned income and milestone achievements. Upon program completion, graduates frequently use these funds for debt reduction, tuition, or home purchases.

Over the years, HANO's FSS Program has delivered impactful initiatives, including Financial Fitness Workshops, Career and Educational Resource Fairs, and Credit Repair Workshops.

Recent successes include five program graduates in 2022, six in 2023, and five in 2024—all demonstrating the transformative power of the program.

Keva Landrum, HANO Interim Executive Director, emphasized the impact of the FSS Program on residents' lives:

“HANO is committed to more than just housing—we are dedicated to creating pathways to success for our residents. The Family Self-Sufficiency Program is a cornerstone of this mission, and this renewed funding ensures we can continue helping families achieve their goals, whether advancing their education, improving financial stability, or becoming homeowners. We are deeply grateful to HUD for their ongoing support and belief in our mission.”

For more information about HANO’s Family Self-Sufficiency Program, visit [www.hano.org/tenants/fss](http://www.hano.org/tenants/fss).

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**About The Housing Authority of New Orleans:**

The Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) is focused on providing affordable housing opportunities for low-income residents of the city of New Orleans while laying the foundation for economic sustainability. HANO serves over 22,000 low-income families through its affordable housing programs. HANO also serves public housing needs for the elderly, disabled, and veterans. Visit [www.hano.org](http://www.hano.org) to learn more.