



# *HAP CHECK NEWS*

*THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH OWNER NEWSLETTER*

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## **Our Website, a Wealth of Information**

Next time you are on the internet, please visit our website at [www.longbeach.gov/cd/housing](http://www.longbeach.gov/cd/housing) --you may be surprised at the information you find!

You will find a message from our Bureau Manager, Darnisa Tyler along with our mission statement and of course our location and phone number. In addition, we have a complete listing of our staff so if you have a question you will know whom to call, email or fax. For information about the Voucher Program including the waiting list, income limits, allowances for utilities or setting rents, it is all just a click away.

Also, check out our "On-Line Services" on the home page. First, you can list your property on the website referral list which is available to participating tenants. Second, if you notice any program abuse, you can report it on-line or call the Housing Authority's Fraud Hotline at 562-570-6985. And third, you can ask us a question, bring an issue to our attention or even send us a suggestion on how we can improve our website, all by completing the on-line form.

Over the next few months, we plan to make some changes to our website to include more program information. So, next time you are surfing the web and have a few extra moments, pay us a visit.

## **FSS-One of Our Programs**

The Family Self-Sufficiency Program (FSS) is a voluntary program designed to assist those families receiving HUD Housing Choice Voucher rental assistance to improve their economic situation and reduce their dependence on public assistance and welfare.

FSS is for individuals who are unemployed, underemployed or are already employed and wanting to increase their income, and who are willing to commit to changing their lives for the better. The FSS Program is designed to work with partnering agencies to offer educational opportunities and job training as well as supportive (over)

services needed to assist participants in relying less on government assistance. Eligible families are connected with the appropriate support services and resources in their respective communities, which help to guide the families toward economic self-sufficiency.

Each FSS participant creates a five-year plan that includes employment goals and identifies training or education needs. Our FSS staff will work with the household to identify, locate and arrange for the services they need to accomplish these goals.

If you are interested in learning more about this program or know of someone who could possibly benefit from this program, please contact FSS Coordinator Sharon Moore at 562-570-5485.

### **Helpful Reminders:**

#### **Direct Deposit of Housing Assistance Payments**

The Housing Authority strongly encourages all landlords who are not signed up for direct deposit, to sign up now. Call Royce Bell at 562-570-6348 or send her an email [Royce\\_bell@longbeach.gov](mailto:Royce_bell@longbeach.gov) and she will send you the sign-up forms. It saves us both time and money!

#### **Email Notifications of Direct Deposit**

If you have not signed up yet for email notification of your direct deposit, do so NOW! To sign up for this service, please send an email to [HADirectDeposit@longbeach.gov](mailto:HADirectDeposit@longbeach.gov) with the following information:

- Your full name
- Your current address
- Last 4 digits of your social security number
- Email address or addresses to send the notification to

This will expedite the notification process, reduce costs and is another step in the Housing Authority's efforts to reduce paper.

#### **New Owner Orientation Sessions**

New and existing owners are welcome to join the staff of the Housing Authority for a workshop designed to provide property owners and managers with information about Housing Choice Voucher Program rules and regulations along with various Housing Authority processes and procedures. Seating is limited, so please RSVP by sending an email to [Monique\\_lathrop@longbeach.gov](mailto:Monique_lathrop@longbeach.gov) or calling Monique Lathrop at 562-570-5490.

For the remainder of the year, sessions are scheduled for August 27 and November 19. All of the sessions are from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm at the Housing Authority Office, 521 E 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Long Beach, CA, 90802 (on 4<sup>th</sup> Street between Atlantic and Linden Avenues).