

# Family Self Sufficiency

## Housing Choice Voucher and residents of Public Housing

D E T R O I T   H O U S I N G   C O M M I S S I O N

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- First Steps to Self Sufficiency: Self Confidence
- Moving on: GED and High School Diplomas
- Criminal Record Expungement
- Trades and Skills: Where to go

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| The Foundations of Education        | 2 |
| GED and High School Diplomas        | 2 |
| Criminal Record Expungement         | 2 |
| The Benefit of Apprenticeships      | 3 |
| Pipefitters and Plumbers            | 3 |
| Carpentry, Masonry and Construction | 3 |
| It Is All About You                 | 4 |

### T H E   P A T H   T O   S E L F - S U F F I C I E N C Y

This episode is dedicated to helping you get on the path to self-sufficiency.

Self-sufficiency is more than just having a job; it's ensuring you have everything you need to begin your career.

Having a job is always good, but most people don't want to be stuck in a 'dead-end' job, with no hopes of promotion.

This edition will outline how to get where you want to be.

There are many benefits to becoming self-sufficient; being able to live in safer areas, to afford to buy whatever you need, the quality of clothing and food will be improved. Your self confidence will sky rocket and your entire outlook

on life will change for the better.

For most people, self confidence is the biggest



Motivational Thoughts

impediment to achieving their goals. Lacking self confidence can lead to self defeating behavior.

Once you make up your mind to live the life you want, there

will be roadblocks in the way.

Overcoming roadblocks and other difficulties take time and patience.

The biggest roadblock some encounter is 'self talk'. How you talk to yourself, what you think about yourself and how you conquer negative thoughts (and people) are crucial in your journey.

Although your self confidence will rise with each new achievement and each goal you've met, it can become damaged with failure.

This edition will address how to overcome self doubt and (negative people), help you to take control of your own self confidence, and get to where you want to be.

### T H E   I M P O R T A N C E   O F   S E L F   C O N F I D E N C E

The importance of a healthy sense of confidence cannot be overstated!

To achieve your goals and begin to realize your dreams you must **know** that you can do it.

Listen to your self talk; do you

think to yourself (this is a form of self talk) that you are not good enough, smart enough or educated enough to achieve something? Do you believe in yourself and that you can do whatever it takes to get to where you want to be?

Some people in your life may discourage you.

They may have their reasons for discouraging you—there is one important thing you need to remember:

What others think of you is none of your business!

# The Foundations of Education

Before you build anything you will need a solid foundation.

Building your education and skill sets require the same thing.

The foundations of a good education is basic knowledge; this is gained in school.

Learning reading, writing and arithmetic are the basics of a solid education.

Sometimes, life situations

may prevent someone from graduation high school, or paying attention in school.

If you don't have a high school diploma, you can get one. You may opt to get a G.E.D (General Education Diploma) instead. G.E.D is equivalent to a high school diploma and accepted as one.

Your chances of getting an entry level job improves

greatly if you have a G.E.D.

Having your G.E.D (or High School diploma) is required for most jobs.

You can get a good job with a diploma, you may also use the diploma to further your education or skill set.

You can get yours from one of the resources listed below.



## GED AND HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS

*“Wayne County Community College District offers GED classes at three campuses.”*

Wayne County Community College District offers free G.E.D classes at three campuses: Downriver, Northwest and Eastern. You'll need your State issued I.D and Social Security Card to register. Call Jason Cureton at: 313.496.2704 or visit the website at: [www.wcccd.edu](http://www.wcccd.edu)

Check out SER Metro Detroit for GED classes also: Classes

offered Monday - Thursday from 4-7 at Ford Resource and Engagement Center 2826 Bagley in Detroit. SER offers one free Exam per subject and tutoring. Call 313.945.5200 to enroll. Visit them at [www.freccity.org](http://www.freccity.org).

Detroit At Work offers G.E.D classes at several locations in Detroit. call Detroit Public Schools Community District

(DPSCD) for locations and to get more information at: 313.852.1089 (West side) or 313.579.7109 (East side) for more locations.

SER Detroit Youthbuild serves ages 16-24 for High School Diploma or GED. There's free Child Drop in Services, too. Call them at: 313.945.5200 (Option 2)

## CRIMINAL RECORD EXPUNGEMENT

Having a criminal record can make it difficult to find and keep lasting employment.

If you have a criminal record, you may be eligible for free expungement.

You must be a resident of Detroit, and the following must apply:

It must be 5 years since your last conviction, release from incarceration, or discharge from probation or parole.

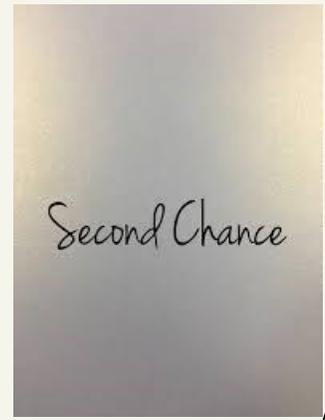
You must have had no more than 1 felony, no more than 2 misdemeanors. Traffic offenses are not eligible for expungement.

To learn more visit:

Northwest Activities Center 18100 Meyers Detroit, 48235 on Mondays – Wednesdays

OR

Samaritan Center—East 5555 Conner Detroit, 48213



# Apprenticeships



Apprentices learn an art or skill from an experienced mentor. Being an Apprentice is a great way to learn new skills!

If you have a GED or High School diploma (or after you get one) you may want to consider learning a new skill as an apprentice.

Apprenticeships will pay you as you learn. You will work, and learn, as an apprentice, and after you complete the program, your wages will increase.

If you are a hands-on learner, being an apprentice may be just what you need!

Most apprenticeships offer college credits towards Associates Degrees

at community colleges.

There are different requirements for different apprenticeships, but most of them require: that you have a high school diploma or GED; valid Michigan Driver's License, be at least 18 years old and be able to pass a drug test.

Some trades require an aptitude test to qualify; the tests are usually based on Reading and applied mathematics.

Other apprenticeships don't require aptitude tests.

## PIPEFITTERS AND PLUMBERS

MCA Detroit offers Plumbing and Pipefitting Apprenticeship Programs.

These apprenticeships are paid and last for 5 years. Once accepted, you will learn all you need to know while earning either \$15. (pipefitter) or \$17.25 (plumber).

These positions also offer medical benefits for yourself,

your spouse and your children.

You'll also earn 30-38 college credits towards an Associates Degree..

During the five years of your apprenticeship, it's estimated you'll earn between \$250,000 to \$300,000!

Contact one of the following for more information:

- MCA Detroit - 313.341.7661 14801 W. 8 Mile Rd. Detroit. [www.mcadetroit.org/careers](http://www.mcadetroit.org/careers)
- Plumbing Industry Training Center - 1911 Ring Dr. Troy 248.585.1435 [www.plumbers98tc.org](http://www.plumbers98tc.org)
- Plumbers UA Local #98 555 Horace Dr. Madison Hgts 248.307.9800 [www.ualocal98.org](http://www.ualocal98.org)



*"During the five years (apprenticeship), you may earn between \$250,000 to \$300,000"*

## CARPENTERS, MASONRY AND CONSTRUCTION

Skilled laborers work with their hands and are always needed. You can learn while you earn with these apprenticeships:

Masonry: brick layers, plasters, tile setters—go to [www.detroittradeltrades.org](http://www.detroittradeltrades.org) to learn more.

Carpenters and Millwrights: Earn, learn, and walk away with a great lifelong, lucrative

career. Check them out at: [www.realapprenticeship.com](http://www.realapprenticeship.com)

Construction: High paying, free apprenticeships and you'll walk away earning about \$36 an hour!

Find out more at: [www.MUSTcareers.org](http://www.MUSTcareers.org) or call Recruitment Outreach worker - Ms. Rose at: 248.808.0028

Don't let these opportunities pass you by; make the first move by calling or emailing them today.

You can break the chain of poverty for yourself and your family.

Treat yourself and your family to a whole new way of life. You'll be glad you did.



WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
WWW.DHCMI.ORG



**DETROIT HOUSING  
COMMISSION**

2211 Orleans St.  
Detroit, MI. 48207

Contact:

Robin Berry : 313.877.8724  
Fax: 313.392.9254  
Email: BerryR@dhcmi.org

You may also contact:

E. Loyd - 313.877.8695 or  
L. Lewis - 313.877.7988

Family Self Sufficiency Program (FSS)

FSS is a program that assists Housing Choice Voucher families and Public Housing Families in meeting goals to improve their quality of life by reducing their dependency on public assistance. In this program, Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinators (FSSC's) provide the head of household and/or other adult members with resources on how to obtain an education, job training, counseling or other types of social services while in the program. The primary objective of the FSS Program is employment and job retention.

If you receive rental assistance through DHC's Housing Choice Voucher Program-HCVP or through DHC's Public Housing Program-PHA, you may be eligible for career planning, job training, family support services, and even pathways to owning your own home. FSSC's provide access to these services through referrals to partner service providers.

When you make a commitment to this program—and keep your commitment - your results can be dramatic.

Your goals should be just out of reach-but not out of sight.

**IT IS ALL ABOUT YOU!**

FSS is all about you.

Helping you succeed in life is what we do.

If you've ever wanted something but couldn't get it, now is your chance to put that behind you.

You can achieve whatever it is you dream about, your goal is my goal.

Just like some people adjust so easily to living on a tiny budget, others adjust just as easily to living on a larger one.

The only thing more rewarding than being able to provide for the needs of yourself and your family is providing for the needs-and wants.

Let's get back to the self-talk from the

first page.

I'm sure most of us have awakened to a new day with the same old thoughts of how to get through. We go to work, get paid, pay bills and try to make whatever is left stretch.

This doesn't have to be your life. You can make the choice to change your life and your situation at any time.

Speak prosperity into your life; instead of thinking "it's not for me" or "I can't do it", try "It's meant for me" and "I can do whatever I put my mind to".

Because you can.

Your input is invaluable to the success of this program.

Please call or email me and let me know of any resources you know of that helped you or someone you know. You are also encouraged to contact me with any concerns you may have,.



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"Equal Housing Opportunity"

DHC will provide a reasonable accommodation to a qualified individual with a disability by providing modifications, alterations or adaptation in policy, procedures, practices. Please advise us if you require a reasonable accommodation