

## Office of Housing and Community Development

Prince William County was designated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as an "Urban Entitlement County" beginning July 1, 1992. As such, Prince William became eligible to receive annual allocations of federal housing funds, to be used for activities which benefit low-and moderate-income persons and households.

The Prince William County Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD) is responsible for administering County housing programs and initiatives. This includes administration of the Area's annual federal (HUD) allocations, a portion of which goes to the independent Cities of Manassas City and Manassas Park.

## Prince William Area Consolidated Housing and Community Development Plan

The Consolidated Plan is a federally-mandated, multi-year plan for meeting the housing and community development needs of low-and moderate-income households in the Prince William Area (PWC, Cities of Manassas and Manassas Park). The Consolidated Plan is a collaborative process wherein community housing and community development needs, resources and priorities are identified, and a vision is set for addressing these needs, using federal entitlement funds of CDBG and HOME.

## Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

The CDBG program seeks the development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment while expanding economic opportunities, principally for person of low-and moderate-income (LMI). CDBG funds are utilized through three established categories or funding pools. The County receives an annual allocation of funds from HUD to conduct local programs:

- ◆ Non-competitive funds for such projects as neighborhood rehabilitation and homeless initiatives.
- ◆ Competitive funds for community improvement projects proposed by non-profit, for-profit and government entities. Projects are designed to benefit low-and moderate-income persons. Each Fall, OHCD conducts "How to Apply" workshops for would-be project sponsors. If you are interested in being placed on the mailing list for competitive funds, contact OHCD.
- ◆ Cooperative Agreements with the Cities of Manassas and Manassas Park. Each year these two independent cities are apportioned funds based upon a population formula. The Cities decided how they will use their allocation and OHCD oversees the administration of their projects.



## Neighborhood Rehabilitation Program (Prince William County, cities of Manassas and Manassas Park)

The Neighborhood Rehabilitation Program is available to low-and moderate-income owner-occupied households. The program is designed to assist with indoor plumbing, health and safety issues, energy conservation and preventive maintenance. The goal of each rehabilitation is to bring the property up to Housing Quality Standards (HQS) set forth by HUD. To be eligible, a household's gross income must be at or below 80% of area median income, adjusted by family size.

Assistance under this program takes the form of deferred loans which covers the cost of the identified rehabilitation. Program is funded by CDBG.

## First Time Homebuyers Program (FTHB)

The First Time Homebuyers Program (FTHB) provides education pre- and post-purchase counseling and deferred loans for downpayment and closing cost. OHCD administers both federal HOME funds and State funds to make the dream of homeownership a reality for eligible Prince William County low-income first-time homebuyers. First trust financing is made available through local, private lending institutions who have a formal agreement with OHCD to provide homeownership opportunities for first-time homebuyers.

## Rental Assistance Program

The Prince William County Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD) administers the Federal "Housing Choice Voucher" rental subsidy program (formerly known as the Section 8 Program) under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Participants in the Housing Choice Voucher Program receive assistance to rent privately owned housing units that are located in apartment complexes, condominiums, townhouses, or single-family homes. Priority is given to serving households with incomes at or below 30 percent of the median income for the Washington, DC Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)

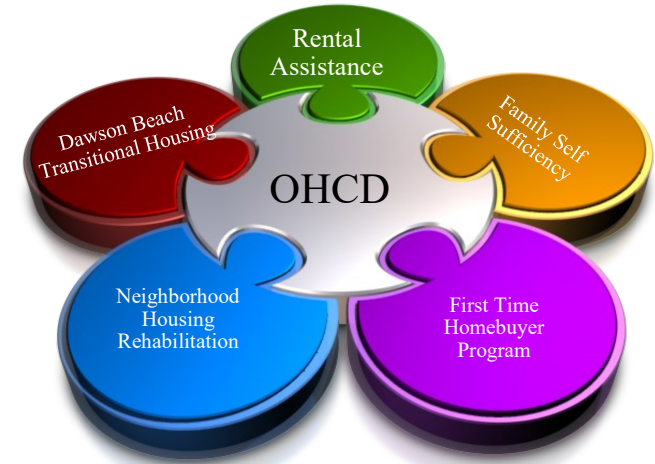
## Family Self-Sufficiency

Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) is a voluntary program that provides Housing Choice voucher participants the opportunity to achieve economic independence over a five-year period. This is achieved through the close assistance of a case manager who supports monitors and links up FSS families to public and private resources in the Community.



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Prince William County



Programs and Services

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