

## What is the HUD FYI Initiative?

The **HUD Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Initiative** is a federal program aimed at preventing homelessness among young adults who are aging out of foster care or have prior foster care experience.

Introduced in 2019, the FYI initiative provides time-limited rental assistance through the **Housing Choice Voucher Program** connects young adults to supportive services from local community resources to help them develop essential life skills and achieve self-sufficiency.

## Who Can Benefit?

The FYI Initiative is designed for young adults who are transitioning out of foster care or have prior foster care experience, and are homeless or at risk of experiencing homelessness.

### Eligible individuals:

- Eligibility must be certified by a Public Child Welfare Agency (PCWA).
- If you meet the eligibility requirements outlined above, you may receive housing assistance and supportive services for up to 36 months.
- If you continue to meet the eligibility criteria and fulfill specific requirements, you may qualify for up to an additional 24 months of assistance.

**Supporting Housing Stability  
and Independence for Youth  
Aging Out of Foster Care**

## Contact Information and Further Resources

Access FYI or Learn More!

If you are aging out of foster care, have already exited foster care but are still under 25, and are experiencing or at risk of homelessness or know someone who meets these criteria, contact your local Public Child Welfare Agency (PCWA) or public housing agency (PHA) to see if you qualify for FYI assistance.

For more information regarding resources, please see the links listed below.

### Learn More:

#### **HUD FYI Program Overview:**

[www.hud.gov/fyi](http://www.hud.gov/fyi)

#### **Find your local PHA:**

[PHA Contact Information - HUDPHA Contact Information - HUD](#)

[HUD Resource Locator](#)

#### **Family Self Sufficiency Program Overview:**

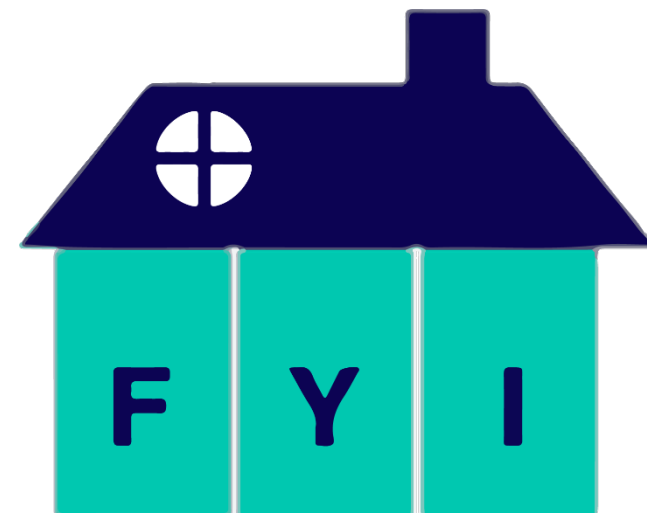
[Family Self-Sufficiency \(FSS\) | HUD.gov](#)

#### **Housing Choice Voucher Program:**

[Housing Choice Voucher \(HCV\)](#)



# HUD Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Initiative



Empowering Youth  
Transitioning from  
Foster Care to  
Independence

## How Does FYI Work?

HUD collaborates with public housing authorities (PHAs) who work with local organizations to help eligible young adults secure housing and develop the skills needed for independent living. The program involves the following steps and services:

1. **Application and Eligibility Verification**
  - o Interested young adults must have eligibility certified by the local public child welfare agency and apply through their local PHA, where eligibility is assessed based on age, income, and prior foster care involvement.
2. **Rental Assistance Through Tenant-Based Housing Vouchers**
  - o Approved participants receive Housing Choice Vouchers to cover rental costs, ensuring access to stable housing.
3. **Connection to Comprehensive Supportive Services**
  - o Participants are connected with local services designed to promote self-sufficiency, which may include:
    - **Basic Life Skills Training:** Counseling on money management, housekeeping, nutrition, and healthcare.
    - **Compliance Counseling:** Guidance on meeting rental lease obligations and Housing Choice Voucher program requirements.
    - **Landlord Assurances:** Support in securing rental units by providing necessary assurances to property owners.
    - **Job Preparation and Retention Counseling:** Resources for job searching, employment readiness, and workplace success.

- **Educational and Career Advancement Support:** Assistance with pursuing education, building career skills, and modeling a strong work ethic.

By combining housing assistance with practical resources and supportive services which participants may choose to participate in based on their own needs, FYI aims to empower young adults to achieve long-term stability and independence.

## Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program:

The Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program is a voluntary program designed to aid individuals in achieving economic independence and self-sufficiency within a set timeframe.

Individuals who choose to participate in the program are assigned a case manager to assist them in developing their plans and determining the support and resources needed to achieve their goals.

Please note that the program is not available in all areas. For more information about the availability of the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program in your area, please contact your local Public Housing Authority (PHA). You can also learn more about the FSS program by visiting the HUD website at [Family Self-Sufficiency \(FSS\) | HUD.gov](https://www.hud.gov/fss).



## Our Commitment to Your Success

At HUD, along with our many partnerships, we are dedicated to supporting young adults aging out or have already aged out of foster care in achieving lasting independence and stability. Through housing assistance and access to valuable resources, the Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Initiative is here to help you build a secure foundation for your future.

**We believe in your success!**

