

**Community Spotlight October 2018 – Anna Tran & Sabrina Lane**



*Sacramento Promise Zone residents gain jobs and achieve independence through the Family Self-Sufficiency Program*

Sacramento Housing Authority’s Family Self-Sufficiency program continues to change lives for residents who set a goal to become self-reliant and reduce their dependency on public assistance. With coaching and guidance from her Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Coordinator, Anna Tran was able to discontinue her CalWorks assistance six years ago and has been working full time.

It has been 12 years since Sabrina Lane received CalWorks assistance and she has also found full time employment after participating in the program. The FSS Program was created by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and was designed to assist Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher residents in becoming more economically self-sufficient. Participants voluntarily sign a five-year Contract of Participation and then develop an Individual Training and Service Plan with the FSS Coordinator.

The Housing Authority helps participants identify goals and connects them with resources and supportive services to reach their targets. The incentive for completing the FSS program is an escrow savings account that is established when participants begin employment or have an increase in their earned income. A portion of the increase is placed in an escrow account. Participants may access the funds as they reach goals and complete the program. Graduates have applied their funds toward educational opportunities, purchasing a vehicle, or buying a home.

Anna plans to purchase a home with her savings, and Sabrina will use her funds to reduce debt and celebrate with her family. Congratulations to Anna and Sabrina on reaching their FSS goals!