

# Case Study:

## Immigrant family prospers

Becky is a family self-sufficiency (FSS) coordinator in Colorado. The FSS program, which is grant-funded through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), is a five-year program that helps move people from needing public assistance (public housing, SNAP benefits, etc.) to self-sufficiency, and ideally to the point where they can purchase a home.

Becky helps FSS program participants increase their earned income, get education or vocational training, reduce their debt, and repair and/or build their credit. As part of the program, participants set goals for their income, credit and work hours. They also have an escrow account where they deposit savings, which they can use as they choose upon completing the program. Many have used it to buy a home, while others use it to fund additional education.

### “Adube”

“Adube” came to the United States with his wife and four children from Africa in 2010. He was 38 and spoke very little English. He had an associate’s degree from Africa, but his credits did not transfer to the U.S.

In 2012, Adube joined the FSS program. He enrolled in English as a second language (ESL) courses and began taking classes to become a licensed practical nurse (LPN).

Adube received his LPN degree and is currently working in a nursing home while pursuing a registered nursing (RN) license and a Bachelor’s of Science in Nursing (BSN). He now speaks English fluently. Adube’s wife, “Fatima,” is also working and is planning to return to school once Adube completes his studies. Fatima has also found support through the FSS program. Becky assisted with Fatima’s child care questions and has provided emotional support as Fatima transitioned to life in the U.S.

In addition to growing his career, Adube has \$11,000 in his escrow account and a credit score over 700.

**\$12,000**

**Annualized cost of rental subsidies to Adube’s family**

**\$11,100**

**Annualized maximum SNAP allotment for a family of six\***

\*USDA Food and Nutrition Service, 10/1/2016 – 9/30/2017

**489 Village Park Drive, Powell, Ohio 43065  
614-848-5958 | [www.servicecoordinator.org](http://www.servicecoordinator.org)**

