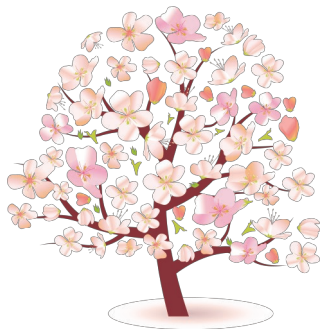


"Go Small,
go simple,
go now."
-J.G. Ballard



The 411

FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY NEWSLETTER
APRIL — JUNE 2017

From the Office

Effective January 1, 2017, the minimal wage in California is \$10.50 per hour. To receive 100% of your escrow credit, you must be "suitable employed" on the last day of your FSS contact. **"Suitable employment" is defined as earning the equivalent of someone working thirty-two (32) hours a week at the prevailing minimal wage.**

Prior to January 2017, suitable employment was comparable to earning \$320.00 or more a week. Effective January 1, 2017, suitable employment is

comparable to earning \$336 or more a week. This applies to self employment as well.

As a reminder, there are three criteria that a FSS participant must meet to successfully graduate the FSS program:

- (1) Suitable employed,
- (2) TANF-free (welfare) twelve (12) months prior to contact end date, and
- (3) Met all of the ITSP goals.

For more info, 530-895-4474 ext. 234.

“Words of the hero: **“I am my fate.”**”
-Marty Rubin

Successful Job Search Tips



BE POSITIVE: The job market today is competitive. The reason that you cannot find a job may not necessarily be your fault. Every job you get passed over for is one step closer to the job that you will get.

STAY MOTIVATED: Make a point of sending out resumes or filling out applications daily because job seeking needs to be practiced, just like playing an instrument.

EVALUATE SKILLS: Assess abilities and how you apply them. Figure out your strongest skills, and skills that are lacking or needing improvement. Be honest when evaluating skills and abilities, despite how difficult the task may be.

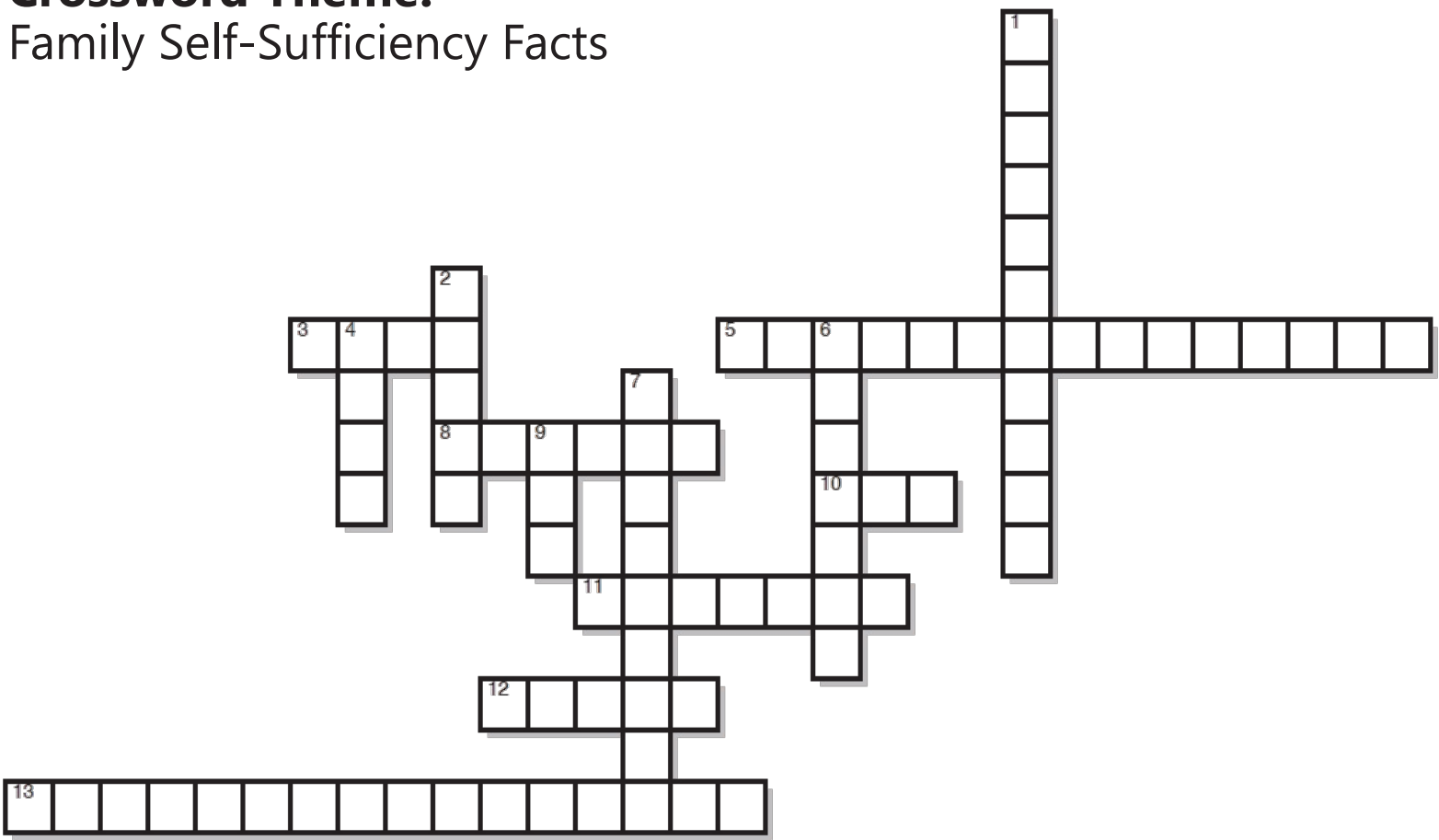
IMPROVE RESUME: Your resume should reflect the best you have to offer, and should clearly and concisely communicate who you are and what you can provide to a potential employer. Keywords are an important aspect of a successful resume.

PRACTICE JOB INTERVIEWS: Practice job interview skills. Hold mock interviews with friends or family. Have them ask you questions you expect, as well as throwing you a few curveballs to hone your abilities to think and speak on the spot.

CONTINUE TO LEARN: Once you know the skills you need to achieve your job search goals, continue to improve and update them. Learn new skills or seek out new experiences that you have never had before. Volunteer work can provide you with opportunities to expand beyond what you already know or have experience with.

Crossword Theme:

Family Self-Sufficiency Facts



ACROSS

- 3 The number of years that is required to be sign on the FSS contract.
- 5 A meeting to dispute a FSS termination.
- 8 Money will be deposited into this interest-bearing account/investment.
- 10 Acronyms to the program that assist in improving and developing abilities to increase employment and enhance self-reliant skills.
- 11 Type of disbursement from escrow funds (up to 50% of total balance).
- 12 Type of disbursement after successfully graduating from the FSS program (100%).
- 13 Working thirty-two (32) hours a week at the prevailing minimal wage (this amount is \$336.00 effective January 1, 2017).

DOWN

- 1 Type of exit where the Housing Authority ask clients to leave FSS program.
- 2 The maximum number of years a contract can be extended for in the FSS program after the required five years (extension is one year at a time).
- 4 Acronyms to Individual and Training Service Plan, which will assist in determining actions needed towards self-sufficiency.
- 6 No entitlement to receive escrow funds due to voluntary exit or termination from FSS program, or if COP is void or null.
- 7 Type of exit when one decides to leave the FSS program, and may be eligible to re-enroll into the FSS program at a later time.
- 9 Acronyms to Contract of Participation, approved by HUD.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Final Deadline to file 2016 taxes: **Monday, April 17, 2017.**
Call 895-4474 ext. 234 to get a list of agencies that will help with your taxes for FREE.

ACROSS (3) Five (5) Informal hearing (8) Escrow (10) FSS (11) Interim (12) Final (13) Suitable employed
DOWN (1) Termination (2) Seven (4) ITSP (6) Forfeit (7) Voluntary (9) COP