

Single Moms!

Securing Housing and Child Care Checklist

BEFORE YOU MOVE

- List the things you want inside your home. (i.e. storage space, number of bathrooms, energy efficiency, backyard size)
- List the things you want in your community. (i.e. quality childcare and schools, public transportation, grocery stores, parks, sidewalks)
- List your family's needs, and some of your wants, in your future neighborhood. Ask yourself what will make your day-to-day life feel manageable, happy and fulfilling.
- Determine budget, factoring in utilities, groceries, clothing, child care costs, etc. We recommend not budgeting in child support, which could change.

DURING THE HOUSING AND CHILD CARE SEARCH

- Determine housing proximity to early learning and child care centers.
- Look up Keystone Star ratings.
- Locate YWCA Greater Pittsburgh early learning centers.
- Research early learning programming that's being delivered.
- Find organizations in your area that assist with locating housing or obtaining vouchers. The Single Mom Defined Resource Directory has a list of housing assistance programs available in the area, including YWCA GP programs.
- Research the YWCA Greater Pittsburgh and Allegheny Link program, which provides supportive housing, such as rapid re-housing and transitional housing.
- Learn more about YW Homes, Inc., which connects moms to affordable options, regardless of if they qualify for Section 8 vouchers.
- Find and Visit Housing Options.
- Apply for the Community Choice Demonstration (CCD) program.

PREPARE TO MOVE

- List of all the things you need to do. (i.e. take time off, coordinate child care, hire moving company)
- List the items will you need immediately. (i.e. groceries, phone/Internet access, utility connections, furniture, appliances, linens, toiletries, cleaning supplies)

AFTER THE MOVE

- Celebrate this major milestone.
- Practice self-care.
- Create a new routine.
- Check in with your friends, family and health care professionals.

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