



State of New Jersey

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

NATASHA JOHNSON
Director

The following Decision is distributed for your information. This Decision has been made in consideration of the specific facts of this case. This Decision is not to be interpreted as establishing any new mandatory policy or procedure otherwise officially promulgated.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

FINAL DECISION

OAL DKT. NO. HPW 07492-18 D.C.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C435147007 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner EA benefits contending that she had exhausted her lifetime limit of EA benefits, plus all available extensions. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On May 25, 2018, the Honorable Michael Antoniewicz, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On that same date, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the record reflects that on May 21, 2018, Petitioner applied for EA benefits in the form of shelter placement. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-3. The record further reflects that Petitioner has received 61 months of EA benefits, and as such, by notice dated May 21, 2018, the Agency denied Petitioner's application for EA benefits because Petitioner had exhausted her lifetime limit of EA benefits, plus all available extensions. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibits R-1, R-2, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.4(a), (b), (d). Based on the facts presented, and the applicable law, the ALJ concluded that Petitioner has exhausted her lifetime limit of EA benefits, plus all available extensions, and that the Agency properly denied Petitioner EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 3; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.4(a), (b), (d). I agree.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have considered the ALJ's Initial Decision, and following an independent review of the record, I concur with the ALJ's final conclusion in this matter and hereby ADOPT the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law.

By way of comment, the Agency shall refer Petitioner to any and all agencies and organizations that may be able to assist with her current needs, including Social Services for the Homeless.

By way of further comment, as it appears from the record that Petitioner has an open case with the Division of Child Protection and Permanency ("DCP&P"), a copy of the Initial and Final Decisions in this matter shall be forwarded to DCC&P. See Exhibit R-3 at 5.



Accordingly, the Initial Decision is hereby ADOPTED, and the Agency's determination is AFFIRMED.

Officially approved final version.

JUN 01 2018

Natasha Johnson
Director

