



State of New Jersey

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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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 17763-18 M.G.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C032195012 (MIDDLESEX COUNTY BD. OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner EA benefits, contending that she has exhausted her lifetime limit of EA benefits. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On December 18, 2018, the Honorable Jeffrey N. Rabin, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On December 18, 2018, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the record reflects that Petitioner, a Supplemental Security Income benefits recipient, has already received 21 months of EA benefits, and as such, the ALJ found that Petitioner has exhausted her 12-month lifetime limit of EA benefits, plus all available extreme hardship extensions. See Initial Decision at 1, 3; see also GAAS payment history, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.4(a), (b), (c). Moreover, the ALJ found that Petitioner is not homeless, or imminently homeless, as she has shelter housing for the next three months, and is moving into an apartment in another state on January 2, 2019. See Initial Decision at 3; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.1(c). Of note, it appears that Petitioner was seeking EA benefits from New Jersey in the form of a security deposit and furniture voucher for the apartment that she will be moving into in that other state. See Initial Decision at 2-3. Based on the foregoing, the ALJ concluded that the Agency's denial of EA benefits to Petitioner was proper and must stand. Id. at 4; see also Adverse Action Notice, dated November 13, 2018.

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.

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

Officially approved final version.

DEC 24 2018

Natasha Johnson
Director

