



State of New Jersey

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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Lt. Governor

NATASHA JOHNSON
Assistant Commissioner

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 **15600-24 I.I.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **C192034004 (CAMDEN-CCBSS)**

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits, and the imposition of a six-month period of ineligibility for EA benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner EA benefits, and imposed a six-month EA ineligibility penalty, contending that she had lost affordable Section 8 housing due to her behavior(s), thereby causing her own homelessness. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On November 13, 2024, the Honorable Jacob S. Gertsman, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a telephonic plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. On November 14, 2024, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's denial of EA benefits to Petitioner, and reversing the Agency's imposition of a six-month EA ineligibility penalty.

This office has been advised that the Agency is rescinding its October 18, 2024, denial of EA benefits to Petitioner, and its imposition of a six-month EA ineligibility penalty, as per the basis for denial stated above. Therefore, as Assistant Commissioner, Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I hereby ORDER and DIRECT the Agency to provide Petitioner with EA benefits, provided that she is otherwise eligible for said benefits. Further, I find that this matter has now been rendered moot, and therefore, DISMISS Petitioner's appeal.

By way of comment, Petitioner is advised that the Agency "shall determine" the most appropriate form of emergency housing required to address the needs of an EA recipient, which may include shelter placement. See N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.3(a)(1).

Accordingly, Petitioner's appeal now being deemed moot, the matter is hereby DISMISSED.

Officially approved final version.

December 04, 2024

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

