



State of New Jersey

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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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 **17761-24 K.W.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **C290207009 (HUDSON COUNTY DEPT OF FAM SVCS)**

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner EA benefits, contending that she failed to provide requested documents required to determine EA benefits eligibility. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On December 20, 2024, the Honorable Julio C. Morejon, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a telephonic plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On December 23, 2024, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, reversing the Agency's determination. Here, the ALJ found, and the Agency acknowledged, that Petitioner had provided all documentation requested pursuant to the Agency's December 13, 2024, 30-Day Notice. See Initial Decision at 3-4; see also Exhibits R-2 through R-7. Further, the Agency stated that it could now process Petitioner's EA benefits application. See Initial Decision at 5. Based on the foregoing, the ALJ reversed the Agency's denial of EA benefits to Petitioner, and ordered the Agency to process Petitioner's November 2024, EA benefits application on an expedited basis, as well as her Work First New Jersey/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("WFNJ/TANF") application, if applicable. See Initial Decision at 5; see also Exhibit R-1, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.2(a)(5). I agree.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

As Assistant Commissioner, 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 REVERSED.

Officially approved final version. December 24, 2024

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

