



State of New Jersey

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Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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CAROLE JOHNSON
Commissioner

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

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 06621-18 V.M.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C272138007 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner appeals from 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.

Also on May 25, 2018, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the record indicates that Petitioner is a Supplemental Security Income ("SSI") benefits recipient, who has previously received 107 months of EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-2. The Agency denied Petitioner further EA benefits, finding that she had exhausted her lifetime limit of EA benefits, plus all available extensions, and because she had been evicted from affordable housing. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-1. Based on the foregoing, the ALJ agreed with the Agency, finding that Petitioner had exhausted her lifetime limit of EA benefits, plus all available extensions, and that the Agency had properly denied Petitioner further EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 2-3; see also Exhibit R-1, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.4. I agree.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development ("DFD"), 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.



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

Officially approved final version.

Natasha Johnson

Director

MAY 31 2018

