



State of New Jersey

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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Commissioner

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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 **09954-24 B.B.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **C751110007 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)**

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP") benefits. The Agency previously contended that Petitioner's income exceeded the maximum allowable income when determining eligibility for SNAP benefits. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On December 3, 2024, the Honorable Mumtaz Bari-Brown, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a telephonic plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. On January 7, 2025, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, concluding that Petitioner is now receiving SNAP benefits, and as such, the matter is moot and should be dismissed.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

Here, the Agency representative testified that subsequent to Petitioner's denial of SNAP benefits on July 15, 2024, Petitioner provided the Agency with sufficient information and/or documentation that she was not receiving an income from June 2024 through September 2024, and, as such, the Agency reversed the denial and found Petitioner eligible for receipt of SNAP benefits. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-1. The Agency representative presented payment information confirming Petitioner received SNAP benefits monthly from July 2023 to October 2024, and continues to receive monthly benefits. Ibid. Based on the foregoing, the ALJ found that the matter is now moot and should be dismissed. See Initial Decision at 2-3. I agree.

As Assistant Commissioner, Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I find that, as Petitioner has now been made whole through the approval of her SNAP benefits, a contested case no longer exists, and this matter has now been rendered moot. As such, I hereby ADOPT the Initial Decision and DISMISS Petitioner's appeal.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision is ADOPTED, and as Petitioner's appeal has now been deemed moot, the matter is hereby DISMISSED.

Officially approved final version. January 15, 2025

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner



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