



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES

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CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

ELIZABETH CONNOLLY
Acting Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

VALERIE HARR
Director

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
AND HEALTH SERVICES

L.S.,

PETITIONER,

v.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

FINAL AGENCY DECISION

OAL DKT. NO. HMA 01144-15

DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
AND HEALTH SERVICES AND
NORTHERN REGIONAL COMMUNITY
CHOICE OPTIONS OFFICE,
RESPONDENTS.

As Director of the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, I have reviewed the record in this matter, consisting of the Initial Decision, the documents in evidence and the contents of the OAL case file. No exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed. Procedurally, the time period for the Agency Head to render a Final Agency Decision is June 15, 2015 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-10, which requires an Agency Head to adopt, reject, or modify the Initial Decision within 45 days of the agency's receipt. The Initial Decision was received on May 8, 2015.

Based upon my review of the record and for the reasons which follow, I hereby ADOPT the recommended decision of the Administrative Law Judge in its entirety and incorporate the same herein by reference. The credible evidence in this record indicates that Petitioner does not satisfy the clinical eligibility criteria necessary to qualify for the Managed Long Term Services and Supports (MLTSS) waiver program. The MLTSS program provides comprehensive services and supports to help eligible beneficiaries remain living in the community rather than in a nursing facility.

In order for an applicant to qualify for MLTSS, he or she must be in need of nursing home level of care. Eligibility for nursing facility services is determined by the professional staff designated by the Department based on a comprehensive needs assessment that demonstrates that the beneficiary requires nursing home level of care. N.J.A.C. 8:85-2.1. In this case, the designated party is the Division of Aging Services' Office of Community Choice Options. One of its registered nurses assessed the Petitioner in her home and determined that she is essentially independent in the activities of daily living and therefore does not meet nursing facility level of care as required by N.J.A.C. 8:85-2.1. See R-2 and R-3 in evidence. Petitioner presented no evidence to contradict this determination.

As noted in the Assessment reports, Petitioner was provided with a list of community-based options that might assist her. I also suggest that she contact the Hudson County Office on Aging at (201) 369-4313 for information about programs and services available to her as well as her Managed Care Organization, United Healthcare, regarding personal care assistant (PCA)

services. Additionally, Petitioner may request a reassessment should her condition change.

THEREFORE, it is on this 5th day of June 2015,

ORDERED:

That the Initial Decision affirming the denial of Petitioner's continued clinical eligibility for waiver services is hereby ADOPTED.



Valerie J. Harr, Director
Division of Medical Assistance
and Health Services