



PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY
Lt. Governor

State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services
P.O. Box 712
Trenton, NJ 08625-0712

SARAH ADELMAN
Commissioner

GREGORY WOODS
Assistant Commissioner

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

R.J.,

PETITIONER,

v.

DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

AND HEALTH SERVICES AND

ESSEX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF

CITIZENS SERVICES,

RESPONDENTS.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

FINAL AGENCY DECISION

OAL DKT. NO. HMA 02336-24

As Assistant Commissioner for the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS), I have reviewed the record in this case, including the Initial Decision and the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) case file. Neither party filed exceptions in this matter. Procedurally, the time period for the Agency Head to render a Final Agency Decision is September 3, 2024.

In the present matter Petitioner was receiving Medicaid under the New Jersey Family Care Aged, Blind, Disabled (ABD) program. In November 2023, Essex County

Department of Citizen Services (Essex County) sent Petitioner a Medicaid renewal packet. Thereafter, on November 20, 2023, Essex County notified Petitioner that effective December 31, 2023, Medicaid benefits were terminated due to excess resources. The notification indicated Petitioner's countable resources were \$8,537.87, exceeding the \$6,000 limit. (R-1). Petitioner requested a fair hearing. However, by a letter dated May 15, 2024, Essex County advised Petitioner that eligibility was reconsidered and Petitioner was now approved, effective January 1, 2024. (R-2). The Medicaid Eligibility System Medicaid Inquiry printout reflects Petitioner's continuous coverage since August 2014 (R-1).

An action is moot when a decision that is being sought in a particular matter will have no practical effect on the existing controversy. In re Conroy, 109 N.J. Super. 453, 458 (App. Div. 1983)). Issues that have become moot are improper subjects for judicial review. Anderson v. Sills, 143 N.J. Super. 432, 437-438 (Ch. Div. 1976) ("[F]or reasons of judicial economy and restraint, courts will not decide cases in which the issue is hypothetical, a judgment cannot grant effective relief, or the parties do not have concrete adversity of interest."). Based on Petitioner's reconsidered eligibility effective January 1, 2024, the basis for the fair hearing-the termination effective December 31, 2023- is moot.

Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above, I hereby ADOPT the Initial Decision, and FIND that the present matter is moot and that Petitioner's appeal should be dismissed.

THEREFORE, it is on this 20th day of AUGUST 2024,

ORDERED:

That the Initial Decision is hereby ADOPTED, as the matter is now MOOT.

Gregory Woods

Gregory Woods, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services