

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Chris Christie Governor

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Elizabeth Connolly Acting Commissioner

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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 5149-15 M.K.

AGENCY DKT. NO. GA286255 (MORRIS CO. OFFICE OF TEMP ASSISTANCE)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits under the Housing Assistance Program ("HAP") pilot. The Agency terminated Petitioner's EA benefits because she violated her EA Service Plan ("SP"). Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On June 9, 2015, the Honorable Joan Bedrin Murray, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents.

On July 1, 2015, the ALJ issued her Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Petitioner testified that she did not keep the appointments that she was required to keep under her SP with the Intensive Case Management Services worker assigned to assist her by the Agency. See Initial Decision at 2. Moreover, Petitioner admitted that she moved from the motel she was placed in by the Agency to live with her family and did not notify the Agency. See id. at 3. Petitioner also offered testimony regarding why she failed to complete housing searches that were required by her SP. Ibid. The ALJ found that Petitioner's testimony was not credible. Ibid. Accordingly, the ALJ concluded that the Agency properly terminated Petitioner's EA benefits. See id. at 4.

No Exceptions to this Initial Decision were filed.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have considered the ALJ's Initial Decision and following an independent

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review of the record, I concur with the ALJ's final conclusion in the matter and hereby ADOPT the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law in the matter.

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

Signed Copy on File at DFD, BARA

JUL 1 4 2015

Natasha Johnson Director