

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Chris Christie Governor

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Elizabeth Connolly Acting Commissioner 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 1267-15 M.S.

AGENCY DKT. NO. GA527001 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner appeals the Respondent Agency's denial of Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP"), f/k/a the Food Stamp Program, benefits because she allegedly failed to document her residence address. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On February 23, 2015, the Honorable Tiffany M. Williams, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. On March 30, 2015, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision which reversed the Agency determination.

No exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have considered the record in this matter and the ALJ's Initial Decision, and having made an independent evaluation of the record, I ADOPT the Initial Decision and REVERSE the Agency determination.

I concur with the ALJ's finding that Petitioner followed-up regarding her applications for WFNJ/GA and SNAP benefits and produced written confirmation of her residence address. Petitioner is eligible for WFNJ/GA benefits upon completion of her 28-day WFNJ work requirement through the Department of Labor and Workforce Development and SNAP benefits effective the date of her application. N.J.A.C. 10:90-1.2(f)(8); N.J.A.C. 10-87-2.26(a).

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Accordingly, the Initial Decision is ADOPTED and the Agency determination is REVERSED.

Signed Copy on File at DFD, BARA

APR 1 7 2015

Natasha Johnson Director