State of New Jersey

TMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
SION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
CN 716

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
Division of Family Development
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Director
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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 2152-17 E.R.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C220192 (HUDSON COUNTY DEPT OF FAM SVCS)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits in the form of two months back rent, only. The Agency denied Petitioner EA benefits contending that she voluntarily quit her job. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On February 17, 2017, the Honorable JoAnn LaSala Candido, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On February 17, 2017, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, reversing the Agency's determination. Here, based on Petitioner's particular circumstances, as presented, the ALJ found Petitioner eligible for EA benefits in the form of two months back rent, only. See Initial Decision at 2-3; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.3(a)(6). However, the ALJ ordered that receipt of said EA benefits is contingent upon Petitioner providing the Agency with proof from her landlord that payment of two months of back rent will prevent her from being evicted, and upon her providing the Agency with her current pay stubs, indicating that she has sufficient income going forward to pay her rent. See Initial Decision at 4. I agree.

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 ALJ's Initial Decision, and following an independent review of the record, I concur with the ALJ's final conclusion in this matter and hereby ADOPT the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law in this matter.

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

FEB 2 7 2017

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Natasha Johnson
Director