



State of New Jersey

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Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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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 06014-18 F.K.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C166574020 (UNION COUNTY DIVISION OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits in the form of storage fees. The Agency denied Petitioner's application for EA benefits in form of storage fees because Petitioner had exceeded the six-month maximum allotment of storage fees. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On June 8, 2018, the Honorable Ernest M. Bongiovanni, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony. No documents were admitted into evidence.

On June 12, 2018, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision affirming the Agency determination. Here, the ALJ found that Petitioner had received six months of EA benefits for storage fees, paid for by the Agency, and that after the six month maximum, the Agency was able to secure approval from the Division of Family Development ("DFD") for an additional four months of storage costs, which ended in April of 2018. See Initial Decision at 3. Therefore, the ALJ concluded that, after ten months of EA benefits in the form of storage fees, the Agency's denial of further EA benefits in the form of additional storage fees was proper. See Initial Decision at 4; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.3(a)(4)(iv). I agree.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed by either party.

As the Director of the DFD, Department of Human Services, I have considered the record and the ALJ's Initial Decision and, following an independent review of the record, I hereby ADOPT the Initial Decision and AFFIRM the Agency's determination.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision is hereby ADOPTED and the Agency's action is hereby AFFIRMED.

Officially approved final version.

JUL - 5 2018

Natasha Johnson
Director

