



State of New Jersey

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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CAROLE JOHNSON
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TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

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 08750-18 R.M.

AGENCY DKT. NO. S467430001 (ATLANTIC CO. DEPT OF FAM. & COM. DEV)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of an extension of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits and the resultant termination of her EA benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner an extension of EA benefits, and terminated said benefits, contending that Petitioner had exhausted her lifetime limit of EA benefits, plus all available extensions. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On June 22, 2018, the Honorable Catherine A. Tuohy, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On June 25, 2018, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the record reflects that Petitioner, an employable Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA) benefits recipient, has received 20 months of EA benefits as of May 2018. See Initial Decision at 2-3; see also Exhibit R-1 at 7-12. Petitioner does not dispute that she has received 20 months of EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 2. Based on the foregoing, the ALJ concluded that Petitioner has exhausted her lifetime limit of EA benefits, plus all available extensions; and that the Agency's denial of EA benefits to Petitioner was proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 3-4; see also Exhibit R-1 at 1-4, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.4(a), (b), (c). 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.

By way of comment, the Agency shall refer Petitioner to any and all agencies and organizations that may be able to assist with her current needs, including Social Services for the Homeless.

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

JUN 29 2018

Officially approved final version.

Natasha Johnson
Director

