



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Family Development
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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 16578-15 L.G.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C017389 (BERGEN COUNTY BD. OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's EA benefits contending that she has 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 December 15, 2015, the Honorable Evelyn J. Marose, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On December 18, 2015, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. The record shows that Petitioner is a Work First New Jersey/General Assistance recipient, who has received 24 months of EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 2. Additionally, the record shows that on September 24, 2015, Petitioner's application for Supplemental Security Income ("SSI") was denied. The record does not indicate that Petitioner appealed her SSI denial. *Ibid.* Although, at the time Petitioner's EA benefits were terminated she did not have a 12-month MED-1 form, the record indicates that she now has a 12-month MED-1 form. *Ibid.* Both a pending SSI application or appeal and 12-month MED-1 form were required for continued EA benefits under the now expired Housing Assistance Program ("HAP") pilot, which Petitioner does not have. See N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.10(a)(1)(i). Based on the forgoing, the ALJ found that Petitioner was ineligible for a further extension of EA benefits, and that the Agency properly terminated said benefits. *Id.* at 3.

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 AFFIRMED.

JAN 13 2016

Signed Copy on File

at DFD, BARA

Natasha Johnson
Director