



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 14317-14 M.H.

AGENCY DKT. NO. GA499774 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner appeals the Respondent Agency's denial of Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA"). Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On December 3, 2014, the Honorable Imre Karaszegi, Jr., Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and issued an Initial Decision which reversed the Agency determination.

Neither party submitted exceptions.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I independently reviewed the record and hereby ADOPT the Initial Decision and REVERSE the Agency determination.

On April 10, 2014, Petitioner completed her 28-day WFNJ work requirement in connection with a new, completed application for WFNJ/GA cash benefits. N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.2(a)(2). In the absence of any evidence to the contrary, Petitioner is eligible for WFNJ/GA retroactive to that date. *Ibid.*

The Agency should pay retroactive WFNJ/GA cash benefits from April 10, 2014. The parties should draft and sign an Individual Responsibility Plan. N.J.A.C. 10:90-4.1(a)(2) and (f). Petitioner may apply for Emergency Assistance. N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.2(a).

For the foregoing reasons, I ADOPT the Initial Decision and REVERSE the Agency determination.

DEC 12 2014

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Jeanette Page-Hawkins
Director