



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Family Development
P.O. Box 716
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

Chris Christie
Governor

Kim Guadagno
Lt. Governor

Elizabeth Connolly
Acting Commissioner

Natasha Johnson
Director
Tel. (609) 588-2400

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 3943-15 S.J.

AGENCY DKT. NO. GA580419 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner appeals from Respondent Agency's denial of her Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") application due to Petitioner's failure to provide information and documentation necessary to determine eligibility. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On April 20, 2015, the Honorable Michael Antoniewicz, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On May 4, 2015, the ALJ issued his Initial Decision affirming the Agency's determination. The ALJ noted that the Agency denied Petitioner's WFNJ/GA application because she failed to provide a letter from the person assisting her financially, as well as a letter from her employer including dates of employment and the reason she is no longer employed. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-1. Petitioner testified that she did submit the information requested by the Agency, but provided no proof to that effect at the hearing. See Initial Decision at 2.

The ALJ found that the Agency proved by a preponderance of the credible evidence that Petitioner failed to provide the necessary paperwork to determine her eligibility for WFNJ/GA. See Initial Decision at 2. Therefore, the ALJ concluded that the Agency's denial of Petitioner's WFNJ/GA application was appropriate and the Agency's determination should be affirmed. See Initial Decision at 2-3.

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

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have considered the record in this matter and the ALJ's Initial Decision, and I concur with the ALJ's decision and hereby adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law in this matter.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision in this matter is ADOPTED and the Agency's actions are hereby AFFIRMED.

MAY 26 2015

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Natasha Johnson
Director