



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 20107-15 Y.M.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C034057 (SALEM COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of her application for Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner EA benefits because it determined that she had caused her own homelessness, without good cause. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On December 28, 2015, the Honorable Bruce M. Gorman, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents.

On December 29, 2015, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. The record shows that Petitioner was living in subsidized housing prior to being evicted for nonpayment of rent, and misrepresenting information on her housing application. See Initial Decision at 2, 3; see also Exhibit R-1 at 14, 15. The ALJ found that Petitioner had caused her own homelessness, without good cause, when she failed to pay her rent, and falsified information on her housing application. See Initial Decision at 3; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.1(c)(3)(ii), (vi). Accordingly, the ALJ concluded, and I agree, that the Agency properly denied Petitioner EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 3-4.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed.

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.

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By way of comment, because I find that Petitioner caused her own homelessness, without good cause, she is hereby subject to a six-month period of EA ineligibility, effective December 14, 2015. See N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.1(c)(3).

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

JAN 11 2016

Signed Copy on File

at DFD, BARA

Natasha Johnson
Director