



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES
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CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

ELIZABETH CONNOLLY
Acting Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

MEGHAN DAVEY
Director

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
AND HEALTH SERVICES**

V.S.,

PETITIONER,

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

v.

FINAL AGENCY DECISION

DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

OAL DKT. NO. HMA 08041-16

AND HEALTH SERVICES AND

BERGEN COUNTY BOARD OF

SOCIAL SERVICES,

RESPONDENTS.

As Director of the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, I have reviewed the record in this case, including the Initial Decision and the documents in evidence. Neither party filed exceptions. Procedurally, the time period for the Agency Head to file a Final Agency Decision in this matter is June

12, 2017, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-10 which requires an Agency Head to adopt, reject, or modify the Initial Decision within 45 days of receipt. The Initial Decision in this matter was received on April 26, 2017.

Based upon my review of the record, I hereby ADOPT the Initial Decision in its entirety and incorporate the same herein by reference. This matter concerns the January 28, 2017 denial of Petitioner's third application for Medicaid benefits due to the failure to provide financial verifications. The ALJ addressed two issues at the hearing. First, whether Petitioner provided the necessary verification for the Bergen County Board of Social Services (BCBSS) to make an eligibility determination. Second, whether BCBSS, and not Petitioner, was required to procure the documents BCBSS needed to determine eligibility. The credible evidence in the record demonstrates that Petitioner failed to provide the needed information prior to the January 28, 2017 denial of benefits. Without this information, BCBSS was unable to complete its eligibility determination and the denial was appropriate.

Furthermore, both the County Welfare Agency (CWA) and the applicant have responsibilities with regard to the application process. N.J.A.C. 10:71-2.2. I agree with the ALJ that there is nothing in the state or federal law that either excuses Petitioner from her obligation to obtain documents needed to verify her eligibility or requires BCBSS to obtain documents not available through the AVS system.

THEREFORE, it is on this 12th day of JUNE 2017,

ORDERED:

That the Initial Decision is hereby ADOPTED.



Meghan Davey, Director
Division of Medical Assistance
and Health Services