



*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 11731-14 L.M.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C182163 (UNION COUNTY DIVISION OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of her request for an extension of Emergency Assistance ("EA"). Because Petitioner appealed, this matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On October 31, 2014, the Honorable Tiffany M. Williams, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. On November 20, 2014, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision reversing the Agency determination.

Neither party submitted exceptions to the Initial Decision.

As Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have considered the record for this matter and the ALJ's Initial Decision, and having made an independent evaluation of the record, I accept and adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law that are contained in the Initial Decision.

During the hearing, the Agency representative indicated that she believed that the Agency denied Petitioner's request for EA because of a sanction. Initial Decision at 2. However, the Agency representative had no knowledge of the case or the sanction and there was no one from the Agency with knowledge of the case or the sanction available to testify. Ibid. Additionally, the Petitioner testified that she was unaware of an existing sanction and has a Med-1 form that excuses her from the work requirement. As such, I agree with the ALJ conclusion that the Agency improperly denied the Petitioner's request for additional EA.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision is ADOPTED and the Agency determination is REVERSED.

*Signed Copy on File*  
at DFD, BARA

**JAN -7 2013'**

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Jeanette Page-Hawkins  
Director