



State of New Jersey

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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NATASHA JOHNSON
Assistant Commissioner

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 00068-20 D.V.

AGENCY DKT. NO. S708598009 (HUDSON COUNTY DEPT OF FAM SVCS)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's EA benefits, contending that her monthly rent did not exceed her monthly income, and that she did not have a housing emergency. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On January 7, 2020, the Honorable Kimberly A. Moss, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On January 7, 2020, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the record reflects that Petitioner's monthly rent is \$735 and her average monthly income is \$835.05. See Initial Decision at 2; see also "Social Security Administration" printout, and "Tenant Verification." The record also indicates that no eviction proceedings have been commenced against Petitioner. See Initial Decision at 2. Based on the foregoing, the ALJ concluded that Petitioner's income exceeds her rent, and that she is not homeless or imminently homeless, as no eviction proceedings have been instituted against her. *Id.* at 3. Accordingly, the ALJ affirmed the Agency's termination of Petitioner's EA benefits. *Id.* at 2-4; see also "Notification Form," and N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.1(a)(1), (c). I agree.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

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.

By way of comment, the Agency shall refer Petitioner to any and all agencies and organizations that may be able to assist with her current needs, including Social Services for the Homeless.

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



Officially approved final version. *JAN - 9 2019*

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

