



State of New Jersey

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Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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Acting Commissioner

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Lt. Governor

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 02631-21 J.G.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C778294007 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA"), benefits, specifically for the months of June, July and August, 2020, and the denial of WFNJ/GA benefits, at redetermination, due to excess income. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On April 19, 2021, the Honorable Evelyn J. Marose, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a telephonic plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. On April 23, 2021, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determinations.

This office has been advised that the Agency is rescinding its denial of EA benefits to Petitioner, for EA benefits in the form of rent for the months of June, July, and August, 2020. Therefore, as Assistant Commissioner, Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I hereby ORDER and DIRECT the Agency to pay Petitioner's rent, for June, July, and August, 2020. Further, I find that this matter has now been rendered moot, and therefore DISMISS Petitioner's appeal with respect to the denial of EA benefits.

Additionally, with respect to the denial of WFNJ/GA benefits, at redetermination, an independent review of the record reflects that Petitioner returned to work in September, 2020, with a monthly earned income of \$918, and that her WFNJ/GA benefits case was closed effective October 1, 2020. See Exhibit R-1 at "Case notes." Based on that earned income, I agree with the Agency's determination to terminate Petitioner's WFNJ/GA case, effective October 1, 2020. See N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.5(b); see also DFD Informational Transmittal ("IT") No. 19-21.

Accordingly, the Agency's determination to deny Petitioner WNFJ/GA benefits at redetermination is hereby AFFIRMED. Further, with respect to the denial of EA benefits, that denial is rescinded, and the Agency is hereby ORDERED and DIRECTED to pay Petitioner's back rent for June, July and August 2020. Finally, as Petitioner's appeal on that issue has now been deemed moot, it is hereby DISMISSED.



Officially approved final version.

JUN 24 2021

Natasha Johnson

Assistant Commissioner

