



State of New Jersey

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
PO BOX 716
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

SARAH ADELMAN
Acting Commissioner

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
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 11161-20 R.E.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C339379007 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA"), benefits, specifically for the months of July and August, 2020. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. A hearing was initially scheduled for February 1, 2021, but was adjourned at the request of the Agency. The matter was rescheduled, and on February 5, 2021, the Honorable Margaret M. Monaco, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a telephonic plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. The record remained open for submission of a written summation on behalf of Petitioner, which was received on February 26, 2021, and the record then closed. On March 9, 2021, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, reversing the Agency's determination and directing the Agency to pay Petitioner's rent for July and August, 2020, minus Petitioner's required share.

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 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 July and August, 2020, minus Petitioner's required share. Further, I find that this matter has now been rendered moot, and therefore DISMISS Petitioner's appeal.

By way of comment, the transmittal in this matter indicates that Petitioner was also contesting a termination of Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") benefits. However, during the hearing before the ALJ, Petitioner stated, and confirmed, that she is not disputing said termination of WFNJ/GA benefits, and as such, that issue is not addressed in the Final Agency Decision.

Accordingly, Petitioner's appeal now being deemed moot, the matter is hereby DISMISSED.



Officially approved final version.

APR - 1 2021

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

