



State of New Jersey

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
PO BOX 716

SARAH ADELMAN
Commissioner

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

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 **04326-23 J.W.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **C145615002 (BERGEN COUNTY BD. OF SOC. SVCS.)**

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits in the form of Temporary Rental Assistance ("TRA"). The Agency denied Petitioner EA benefits, contending that she was renting a room in a family member's or friend's home, and that EA benefits are not payable to relatives or friends. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On June 20, 2023, the Honorable Thomas R. Betancourt, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. Also on June 20, 2023, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, reversing the Agency's determination, and remanding the matter to the Agency to reassess Petitioner's EA benefits application of January 9, 2023, to determine the relationship between Petitioner and her landlord (J.J.), and her respective eligibility for EA benefits, accordingly.

This office has been advised that the Agency is rescinding its denial of EA benefits to Petitioner. Therefore, as Assistant Commissioner, Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I hereby ORDER and DIRECT the Agency to provide Petitioner with EA benefits retroactive to the date of Petitioner's application, January 9, 2023, through April 1, 2023, the date of the termination of her Work First New Jersey/General Assistance benefits. Further, I find that this matter has now been rendered moot, and I therefore DISMISS Petitioner's appeal.

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

Officially approved final version. August 10, 2023

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

