



State of New Jersey

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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SARAH ADELMAN
Commissioner

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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 **02194-23 Y.P.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **C099860009 (HUDSON COUNTY DEPT OF FAM SVCS)**

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Work First New Jersey/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("WFNJ/TANF") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner WFNJ/TANF benefits, contending that Petitioner's household income exceeded the WFNJ/TANF benefits eligibility limit. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. A hearing was initially scheduled for May 18, 2023, but was adjourned. On June 8, 2023, the Honorable Kimberly A. Moss, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents. Thereafter, the parties were given the opportunity to submit closing briefs, and upon receipt of same by both parties the record then closed on June 12, 2023. On June 12, 2023, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination.

Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed by Legal Services, on behalf of Petitioner, on June 12, 2023. Exceptions were also filed by the Agency on June 13, 2023. A reply to the Agency's Exceptions was submitted by Legal Services on June 15, 2023.

This office has been advised that the Agency is rescinding its denial of WFNJ/TANF benefits to Petitioner. Therefore, as Assistant Commissioner, Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I hereby ORDER and DIRECT the Agency to expedite the reevaluation of Petitioner's WFNJ/TANF benefits eligibility in accordance with N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.3(a) and Division of Family Development Informational Transmittal No. 19-21, and to provide Petitioner with WFNJ/TANF benefits retroactive the date of her WFNJ/TANF application, as appropriate. Further, I find that this matter has now been rendered moot, and I therefore DISMISS Petitioners' appeal.

By way of comment, Petitioner is advised that, should the Agency again deny her WFNJ/TANF benefits based upon the reevaluation, she is without prejudice to request another fair hearing on that denial.

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



Officially approved final version. July 25, 2023

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

