

## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES
P.O. Box 712
Trenton, NJ 08625-0712

ELIZABETH CONNOLLY Acting Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO Lt. Governor

CHRIS CHRISTIE

Governor

MEGHAN DAVEY Director

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
AND HEALTH SERVICES

M.M.,

PETITIONER,

**ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION** 

V.

FINAL AGENCY DECISION

BERGEN COUNTY BOARD OF

OAL DKT. NO. HMA 14033-2017

SOCIAL SERVICES,

RESPONDENT.

As Director of the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, I have reviewed the record in this case, including the OAL case file and the Initial Decision. No Exceptions were filed. Procedurally, the time period for the Agency Head to file a Final Decision is December 8, 2017, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-10 which requires an Agency Head to adopt, reject, or modify the Initial Decision within 45 days of receipt. The Initial Decision was received on October 24, 2017.

This matter arises from the denial of M.M.'s application for Medicaid benefits.

The application was denied because M.M.'s income exceeded the eligibility limit. M.M. requested a fair hearing. Representatives of the Bergen County Board of Social

Services as well as M.M. appeared for the hearing. After a discussion of the applicable regulations and of M.M.'s income, M.M. declined to have a hearing on the record and also declined to sign a withdrawal of her hearing request. The Administrative Law Judge concluded that M.M. abandoned the hearing and dismissed M.M.'s appeal with prejudice. M.M. did not file Exceptions to the Administrative Law Judge's Initial Decision and finding that the appeal was abandoned.

Based on my review of the record, I concur with the ALJ's findings and hereby ADOPT the Initial Decision.

THEREFORE, it is on this 20 day of NOVEMBER 2017,

ORDERED:

That the Initial Decision concluding that the Petitioner abandoned her hearing and dismissing the appeal with prejudice is hereby ADOPTED.

That Petitioner's request for a fair hearing is DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE; and

That Bergen County's denial of Petitioner's Medicaid application is UPHELD.

Meghan Davey, Director

Division of Medical Assistance

and Health Services