



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Family Development
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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 9308-15 B.M.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C088201 (ATLANTIC CO. DEPT OF FAM. & COM. DEV)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of his application for an extension of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits under the former Housing Assistance Program ("HAP") pilot. The Agency denied Petitioner a further extension of EA benefits under HAP because it determined that he did not meet the eligibility criteria. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On September 23, 2015, the Honorable W. Todd Miller, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents.

On September 25, 2015, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. The record shows that Petitioner received 37 months of EA benefits and applied for a further extension of EA benefits under HAP. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-2. The record further reflects that Petitioner submitted a MED-1 form in support of his claim, but that he did not provide any valid documentation that he had applied for and is either pending approval, or appealing, a denial of a Supplemental Security Income ("SSI") or Retirement, Survivors and Disability Insurance ("RSDI"). See Initial Decision at 7. The ALJ found that Petitioner did not have a MED-1 form indicating at least a 12-month disability. *Ibid.*; see also Exhibit P-1. Accordingly, the ALJ concluded that the Agency properly denied Petitioner's application for an extension of EA benefits because he did not meet the eligibility criteria under HAP. See Initial Decision at 7; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.10(a)(1)(i).

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development ("DFD"), Department of Human Services, I have considered the ALJ's Initial Decision and following an independent review of the record, I concur with the ALJ's final conclusion in this matter and hereby ADOPT the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law in this matter.

By way of comment, there appears to be a typographical error in the ALJ's Order. See Initial Decision at 7. It is apparent from the ALJ's findings and conclusion, as well as from my findings, that the determination of the Agency should be AFFIRMED and that the action filed by Petitioner should be DISMISSED.

By way of further comment, the HAP and Housing Hardship Extension ("HHE") pilot programs expired on July 2, 2015, and no new applications for HAP or HHE are being accepted after July 6, 2015. See DFD Instruction No. 15-07-02.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision in this matter is hereby ADOPTED and the Agency's determination is AFFIRMED.

Signed Copy on File

at DFD, BARA

NOV 05 2015

Natasha Johnson
Director