



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 11542-15 C.F.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C027708 (ATLANTIC CO. DEPT OF FAM. & COM. DEV)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of her application for an extension of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits in the form of Temporary Rental Assistance ("TRA"), under the former Housing Assistance Program ("HAP") pilot. The Agency denied Petitioner EA benefits under HAP because it determined that she did not meet the eligibility criteria necessary to qualify for HAP. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On October 27, 2015, the Honorable Bruce M. Gorman, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents.

On November 17, 2015, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. The record shows that Petitioner received 26 months of EA/TRA benefits, and applied for further extension of EA benefits under the HAP pilot. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-1 at 9-12. The record also shows that Petitioner submitted two MED-1 forms in support of her claim, each indicating a six-month period of disability. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-1 at 14 and 18. Additionally, the record shows that Petitioner has a pending Supplemental Security Income ("SSI") appeal. See Exhibit P-1 at 8. The ALJ found that Petitioner failed to provide the Agency with a MED-1 form, indicating at least a 12-month disability, in support of her application. See Initial Decision at 3-4; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.10(a)(1)(i). The ALJ also found that Petitioner had exhausted her lifetime limit of EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 3; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.4(a) and (b).

Accordingly, the ALJ concluded that the Agency properly denied Petitioner's

application for an extension of EA benefits under HAP. See Initial Decision at 4. I agree.

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.

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

DEC 14 2015

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Natasha Johnson
Director