



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Family Development
P.O. Box 716
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

Chris Christie
Governor

Kim Guadagno
Lt. Governor

Elizabeth Connolly
Acting Commissioner

Nalasha Johnson
Director
Tel. (609) 588-2400

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 8622-15 E.C.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C218206 (CAMDEN COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from Respondent Agency's termination of her Work First New Jersey/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("WFNJ/TANF) and Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's WFNJ/TANF benefits because Petitioner had exhausted her cumulative 60 month lifetime limit. The Agency terminated Petitioner's EA benefits because she was no longer a WFNJ recipient. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. A hearing was scheduled for July 9, 2015, but was adjourned to allow Petitioner an opportunity to obtain a MED-1 form. On September 3, 2015, the Honorable Sarah G. Crowley, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On September 16, 2015, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision affirming the Agency's determination. The ALJ noted that Petitioner had been given notice of the pending termination and failed to attend a meeting to discuss the exhaustion of her WFNJ/TANF cash assistance. See Initial Decision at 2. Petitioner's WFNJ/TANF benefits were then terminated and her case was closed effective June 1, 2015. See Exhibit R-1 at 2. The ALJ found that Petitioner had used her cumulative lifetime limit of 60 months and did not otherwise qualify for an extension or exemption. See Initial Decision at 3. Consequently, Petitioner's EA was terminated because she was no longer a WFNJ recipient, nor did she qualify for extension of EA. *Ibid*; see also Exhibit R-2 at 8. Based on an independent review of the record, I agree with the ALJ.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, 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 decision 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 action in this matter is AFFIRMED.

OCT 26 2015

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Natasha Johnson
Director