



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 3056-15 J.R.

AGENCY DKT. NO. S552069 (MIDDLESEX COUNTY BD. OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of an extension of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits under the Housing Assistance Program ("HAP") pilot in the form of Temporary Rental Assistance ("TRA"). The Agency denied Petitioner an extension of EA benefits because Petitioner did not meet any of the criteria required for HAP eligibility. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. A hearing was scheduled for May 5, 2015, and was adjourned. Another hearing was scheduled for August 4, 2015, and that too was adjourned. On September 11, 2015, the Honorable Leland S. McGee, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On September 23, 2015, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, finding the matter at issue moot, and affirming the Agency's determination. The record shows that Petitioner applied for EA benefits under HAP in the form of TRA. See Exhibit R-1. However, the record indicates that Petitioner moved out of her apartment on August 1, 2015, and moved in with her paramour, testifying that her paramour is working and can afford to pay the rent. See Initial Decision at 3. Accordingly, the ALJ found that the basis of the appeal is now moot, and affirmed the Agency's denial of an extension of EA benefits in the form of TRA. *Id.* at 4.

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 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.

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

OCT 26 2015

Natasha Johnson
Director