



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 9715-14 L.M.

AGENCY DKT. NO. GA358489 (UNION COUNTY DIVISION OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals Respondent Agency's choice of housing placement in connection with a grant of Emergency Assistance ("EA") in the form of Temporary Rental Assistance ("TRA"). Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On August 5, 2014, the Honorable James A. Geraghty, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents. On August 7, 2014, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision which affirmed the Agency determination.

Neither party submitted exceptions.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I independently reviewed the record and hereby ADOPT the Initial Decision and AFFIRM the Agency determination.

Petitioner receives Work First New Jersey/General Assistance.

The Agency continued EA in the form of TRA, but changed the approved housing placement based upon Petitioner's admission he allowed his brother, and possibly third-parties, to live in his apartment.

EA is a supportive service designed "to meet the emergent needs of WFNJ recipients, so that recipients shall not be prevented from complying with the work requirements due to disruptions caused by homelessness and related emergencies." N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.1(a).

N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.3(a)(1) authorizes the Agency to determine the most appropriate form of emergency housing which is required to address the need, taking into consideration individual/family circumstances and services provided.

EA is contingent upon the Petitioner taking reasonable steps towards resolving the emergent situation, including but not limited to following Agency recommendations. N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.6(a).

The Agency determination to change the form of EA granted to Petitioner is supported by sufficient credible evidence, and is not unreasonable, arbitrary or capricious.

For the foregoing reasons, I ADOPT the Initial Decision and AFFIRM the Agency determination.

AUG 19 2014

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Jeanette Page-Hawkins
Director