



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Family Development

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Chris Christie
Governor

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Elizabeth Connolly
Acting Commissioner

Natasha Johnson
Director

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 16351-14 M.P.

AGENCY DKT. NO. GA261325 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of her Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's benefits as it contended that Petitioner required an additional eligibility determination. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On January 20, 2015, the Honorable Leland S. McGee, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents into evidence. On February 26, 2015, the ALJ issued his Initial Decision reversing the Agency's determination as to Petitioner's WFNJ/GA benefits.

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 record in this matter and the ALJ's Initial Decision and having made an independent evaluation of the record, I hereby ADOPT the Initial Decision and REVERSE the Agency determination. Because the Agency failed to issue an adverse action notice to the Petitioner prior to terminating her WFNJ/GA benefits as required by N.J.A.C. 10:90-9.1, I agree with the ALJ's conclusion that the Agency improperly terminated her WFNJ/GA benefits. The Agency shall reinstate Petitioner's WFNJ/GA benefits retroactive to October 1, 2014.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision in this matter is ADOPTED and the Agency determination is REVERSED.

MAY 14 2015

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Natasha Johnson
Director