



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 8170-14 R.B.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C038394 (SOMERSET COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals the Respondent Agency's denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA"). Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On August 5, 2014, the Honorable Joseph A. Ascione, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents. On August 14, 2014, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision which affirmed the Agency determination.

Neither party submitted exceptions.

As 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/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("WFNJ/TANF"), Medicaid and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP"), f/k/a the Food Stamp Program, benefits.

The Petitioner exhausted her 12-month lifetime limit of EA and applicable extreme hardship extensions. N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.4. Petitioner applied for EA under the Housing Assistance Program ("HAP") pilot, N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.10, after she exhausted 12 months of EA under the Housing Hardship Extension pilot. N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.9.

To qualify for an extension under HAP, which provides up to 24 months of EA, a WFNJ/TANF recipient must have a Med-1 form substantiating 12 months of disability and have applied for and is either pending approval or appealing a denial for Retirement, Survivors and Disability Insurance ("RSDI") and or Social Security Income ("SSI") disability benefits. N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.10(a)(1)(i).

Here, Petitioner is not a SSI recipient. In addition, the Petitioner does not have a pending application for, or an appeal from the denial of SSI or RSDI benefits, supported by a 12-month Med-1 form. N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.10(a)(1). To the contrary, it appears Petitioner has actively sought employment and recently received a bona fide job offer. As such, the Agency's denial of additional EA under HAP was proper.

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

OCT 16 2014

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Jeanette Page-Hawkins
Director