



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

Natasha 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 15701-15 R.L.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C062728 (CUMBERLAND COUNTY BD OF SOC SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from Respondent Agency's sanction of his Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP"), f/k/a the Food Stamp Program, benefits. The Agency sanctioned Petitioner's SNAP benefits due to his non-compliance with the mandated work activity. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On October 21, 2015, the Honorable Bruce M. Gorman, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents.

On November 2, 2015, the ALJ issued his Initial Decision affirming the Agency's determination. Based upon the evidence presented in the matter, the ALJ concluded that Petitioner had not provided good cause for his failure to attend the required work activity from July 13, 2015, through July 23, 2015. See Initial Decision at 2. Although Petitioner provided a MED-1 form to the Agency, it identified that Petitioner was able to work as of March 1, 2015. *Ibid.* As such, the ALJ affirmed the Agency's action. *Id.* at 3; see also N.J.A.C. 10:87-10.16(a)(1).

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed by either party.

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 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 ADOPTED and the Agency's actions are hereby AFFIRMED.

NOV 12 2015

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Natasha Johnson
Director