



A PATCHWORK OF POLICIES

A 22-year-old working mother of two small children lost programmatic eligibility for child care for her two children after the Orange County Department of Social Services (OCDSS) amended its Child and Family Services Plan in September 2012, to remove from the group of eligible families those families with a parent or caretaker who is physically or mentally incapacitated. She requested a fair hearing because the loss of child care meant that she would not be able to work. Her boyfriend, the father of her son, was physically incapacitated as a result of brain and neck injuries suffered in a serious car accident. Notwithstanding the boyfriend's inability to adequately care for the Appellant's children, and despite the Appellant's inability to be home due to her employment, an ALJ affirmed OCDSS's determination to discontinue her child care services.