

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Claimant

Reg. No. 2008-25221

Issue No. 2009, 4031

Case No. [REDACTED]

Load No. [REDACTED]

Hearing Date:

February 25, 2009

Wayne County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Colleen M. Mamelka

HEARING DECISION

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and MCL 400.37 upon the Claimant's request for a hearing received by the Department on July 28, 2008. After due notice, a hearing was held in Detroit, Michigan on Wednesday, February 25, 2009. The Claimant's authorized representative appeared. [REDACTED] appeared on behalf of the Department.

ISSUE

Whether the Department properly determined that the Claimant was not disabled for purposes of Medical Assistance ("MA-P") and State Disability Assistance ("SDA") programs.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the competent, material and substantial evidence on the whole record, finds as material fact:

1. The Claimant submitted a public assistance application seeking MA-P; Retro MA-P from October 2007, and SDA benefits on November 19, 2007.

2. The Medical Review Team ("MRT") determined the Claimant was not disabled on January 31, 2008 finding the Claimant capable of performing other work for purposes of MA-P.

3. On February 8, 2008, the Department sent the Claimant an eligibility notice informing the Claimant that her MA-P and SDA benefits were denied.

4. On May 9, 2008, the Department received the Claimant's written Hearing Request protesting the "not disabled" determination.

5. On July 30, 2008, the State Hearing Review Team ("SHRT") found the Claimant not disabled.

6. Prior to the start of the hearing, the Claimant's authorized representative submitted a copy of the Social Security's Administration's approval effective [REDACTED].

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Medical Assistance ("MA") program is established by Subchapter XIX of Chapter 7 of The Public Health & Welfare Act, 42 USC 1397, and is administered by the Department of Human Services ("DHS"), formally known as the Family Independence Agency, pursuant to MCL 400.10 *et seq* and MCL 400.105. Department policies are found in the Program Administrative Manual ("PAM"), the Program Eligibility Manual ("PEM"), and the Program Reference Manual ("PRM").

A previously denied MA application is treated as a pending application when MRT determined the Claimant was not disabled, and subsequently, the Social Security Administration ("SSA") determines that the Claimant is entitled to RSDI based on his disability/blindness for some, or all, of the time covered by the denied MA application, provided the Department is informed of the approval within 90 days of the date of the MA denial notice. PEM 260, pp.1, 2 All eligibility factors must be met for each month MA is authorized. PEM 260, p. 2

Ultimately, because of the Social Security Administration determination, it is not necessary for the Administrative Law Judge to discuss the issue of disability pursuant to PEM 260.

The State Disability Assistance ("SDA") program, which provides financial assistance for disabled persons, was established by 2004 PA 344. DHS administers the SDA program pursuant to MCL 400.10 *et seq.* and Michigan Administrative Code ("MAC R") 400.3151 – 400.3180. Department policies are found in PAM, PEM, and PRM. A person is considered disabled for SDA purposes if the person has a physical or mental impairment which meets federal SSI disability standards for at least ninety days. PEM 261, p. 1 Receipt of SSI or RSDI benefits based on disability or blindness, or the receipt of MA benefits based on disability or blindness (MA-P) automatically qualifies an individual as disabled for purposes of the SDA program. PEM 261, pp 1–2

In this case, since the Claimant was found disabled for the purposes of the MA-P program, the Claimant is found disabled for SDA purposes.

#### DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, finds that the Claimant meets the definition of medically disabled under the MA-P program.

Accordingly, it is ORDERED:

1. The Department shall open (if not previously done so) an ongoing Medical Assistance case for the Claimant based upon the November 19, 2007 application.

