

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: 2009-17319
Issue No: 1000
Case No: [REDACTED]
Load No: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date:
April 29, 2009
Wayne County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Jeanne M. VanderHeide

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 hearing. After due notice, a telephone hearing was conducted from [REDACTED] on April 29, 2009. The Claimant was present and testified. [REDACTED] was present on behalf of Claimant as well. David Kernick, FIM, and Lisa Brown, JET Coordinator appeared on behalf of the Department.

ISSUE

Whether the Department properly closed Claimant's FIP case?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. Claimant was a FIP recipient.
2. Claimant's FIP case closed on 3/10/09 for noncompliance.
3. Claimant did not receive any FIP benefits for the first half of April 2009.

4. At the hearing, the Department agreed to reimburse Claimant for the missed FIP benefits for the first half of April 2009 and to reinstate Claimant in JET immediately.
5. Claimant agreed to restart the JET program
6. As a result of this agreement, Claimant indicated that she no longer wished to proceed with a hearing.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Family Independence Program (FIP) was established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Public Law 104-193, 8 USC 601, *et seq.* The Department of Human Services (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the FIP program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and MAC R 400.3101-3131. The FIP program replaced the Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) program effective October 1, 1996. Department policies are found in the Program Administrative Manual (PAM), the Program Eligibility Manual (PEM) and the Program Reference Manual (PRM).

Under Program Administrative Manual Item 600, clients have the right to contest any agency decision affecting eligibility or benefit levels whenever they believe the decision is illegal. The agency provides an Administrative Hearing to review the decision and determine if it is appropriate. Agency policy includes procedures to meet the minimal requirements for a fair hearing. Efforts to clarify and resolve the client's concerns start when the agency receives a hearing request and continues through the day of the hearing.

In the present case, the department has agreed to pay the missed FIP benefits for the first two weeks of April 2009 and to allow Claimant to restart the JET program immediately.

Claimant agreed to attend JET. As a result of this agreement, Claimant indicated she no longer wished to proceed with the hearing. Since the Claimant and the Department have come to an agreement, it is unnecessary for this Administrative Law Judge to make a decision regarding the facts and issues in this case.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the findings of fact and conclusions of law, finds that the Department and Claimant have come to a settlement regarding claimant's request for a hearing. Therefore it is ORDERED that:

1. The Department shall pay the missed FIP benefits for April of 2009.
2. The Department shall immediately refer Claimant to JET.
3. Claimant agrees to restart the JET program.
4. The Claimant retains the right to pursue her rights to a hearing on the issue of good cause should another negative action be issued.

/s/

Jeanne M. VanderHeide
Administrative Law Judge
for Ismael Ahmed, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 05/05/09

Date Mailed: 05/06/09

NOTICE: Administrative Hearings may order a rehearing or reconsideration on either its own motion or at the request of a party within 30 days of the mailing date of this Decision and Order. Administrative Hearings will not order a rehearing or reconsideration on the Department's motion where the final decision cannot be implemented within 90 days of the filing of the original request.

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The Claimant may appeal the Decision and Order to Circuit Court within 30 days of the mailing of the Decision and Order or, if a timely request for rehearing was made, within 30 days of the receipt date of the rehearing decision.

JV/dj

cc:

