

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: 2009-36880

Issue No: 3002/3000

Case No: [REDACTED]

Load No: [REDACTED]

Hearing Date:

October 26, 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 submitted on September 16, 2009. After due notice, a telephone hearing was conducted in Wayne County, Michigan on October 26, 2009. The Claimant was present and testified. Brenda Philpot, FIM and Nearline Ford, FIS appeared on behalf of the Department.

ISSUE

Whether the Department properly calculated Claimant's Food Assistance Program ("FAP") benefits?

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 FAP recipient.

2. Following the conversion to Bridges, Claimant's FAP benefits were reduced from \$531.00 per month to \$430.00 per month.
3. The Department acknowledged that Claimant's shelter obligation was omitted from the Bridges budget.
4. At the hearing, the Department agreed to recalculate FAP benefits to include a shelter obligation from the date of the Bridges budget.
5. As a result of this agreement, Claimant indicated that he no longer wished to proceed with a hearing.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Food Assistance Program (FAP) (formerly known as the Food Stamp (FS) program) is established by the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, and is implemented by the federal regulations contained in Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The Department of Human Services (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the FAP program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and MAC R 400.3001-3015. 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.

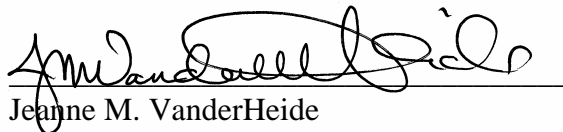
In the present case the department has agreed to reconsider Claimant's FAP review and recalculate FAP benefits including Claimant's shelter obligation. Claimant has agreed to provide verification of his taxes and insurance costs within ten (10) days from the date of the hearing. As a result of this agreement, Claimant indicated he 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.

Accordingly, it is ORDERED:

1. The department shall review and recalculate Claimant's FAP benefits from the institution of Bridges through the present including Claimant's shelter obligation in accordance with this settlement agreement.
2. The Claimant shall provide the Department with verification of his taxes and property insurance cost within 10 days.
3. The Department shall supplement the Claimant for any lost benefits he was otherwise entitled to receive as a result of his shelter obligation not being included in FAP calculation.



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

Date Signed: 11/23/09

Date Mailed: 12/04/09

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 60 days of the filing of the original request.

The Claimant may appeal the Decision and Order to Circuit Court within 30 days of the receipt 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:

