

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: 2009-36890
Issue No: 1025, 3008, 6015
Case No: [REDACTED]
Load No: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date:
October 27, 2009
Genesee County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Steven M. Brown

HEARING DECISION

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and MCL 400.37 upon Claimant's request for a hearing. After due notice, a telephone hearing was conducted from [REDACTED] on October 27, 2009.

ISSUE

Whether the Department properly terminated Claimant's Family Independence Program (FIP), Food Assistance Program (FAP) and Child Development and Care (CDC) 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 recipient of FIP, FAP and CDC benefits.
- (2) On June 18, 2009, the Department received a June 12, 2009 Noncooperation

Notice from the Office of Child Support (OCS). (Exhibit 1)

(3) On July 29, 2009, the Department verified that Claimant was still in noncooperation status. (Exhibit 2)

(4) On August 29, 2009, the Department mailed Claimant a Notice of Case Action informing her that her FIP, FAP and CDC were being terminated. (Exhibit 6)

(5) On September 16, 2009, the Department received Claimant's hearing request protesting the termination of her FIP, FAP and CDC benefits.

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 (DHS or department) 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 Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Bridges Reference Manual (BRM).

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 (DHS or department), administers the FAP program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and MAC R 400.3001-3015. Departmental policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM), and the Bridges Reference Manual (BRM).

The Child Development and Care program is established by Titles IVA, IVE and XX of the Social Security Act, the Child Care and Development Block Grant of 1990,

and the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996. The program is implemented by Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 98 and 99. The Department of Human Services (DHS or department) provides services to adults and children pursuant to MCL 400.14(1) and MAC R 400.5001-5015. Department policies are contained in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Bridges Reference Manual (BRM).

Families are strengthened when the children's needs are met. Parents have a responsibility to meet their children's needs by providing support and/or cooperating with the department including the Office of Child Support (OCS), the Friend of the Court and the prosecuting attorney to establish and/or obtain support from the absent parent. Clients must comply with all requests for action or information needed to establish paternity and/or obtain child support on behalf of children for whom they received assistance unless a claim of good cause for not cooperating has been granted or is pending. Failure to cooperate without good cause results in disqualification. Disqualification includes member removal, denial of program benefits and/or case closure, depending on the program. BEM 255, p.1

In the instant case, Claimant was considered to be noncooperative by the OCS and the Department took action in regard to Claimant's benefits. Claimant testified that she was told over the phone by the OCS that she was not considered cooperative until October 20, 2009.

With the above said, I find that the Department acted in accordance with policy in terminating Claimant's FIP, FAP and CDC benefits

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, finds that the Department acted in accordance with policy in terminating Claimant's FIP,

