STATE OF MICHIGAN MICHIGAN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING SYSTEM ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No:

Issue No:

Case No:

201024347 200925090

2009, 4031

Hearing Date: August 26, 2010 Arenac County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Landis Y. Lain for Jay W. Sexton

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, an in-person hearing was held on August 26, 2010. Claimant was represented at the hearing by L&S Associates.

This hearing was originally held by Administrative Law Judge Jay W. Sexton. Jay W. Sexton is no longer affiliated with the Michigan Administrative Hearing System Administrative Hearings for the Department of Human Services. This hearing decision was completed by Administrative Law Judge Landis Y. Lain by considering the entire record.

<u>ISSUE</u>

Did the Department of Human Services (the department) properly deny claimant's application for Medical Assistance (MA-P) and State Disability Assistance (SDA)?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

- (1) On September 29, 2008, claimant filed an application for Medical Assistance and State Disability Assistance benefits alleging disability.
- (2) On February 9, 2009, the Medical Review Team denied claimant's application stating that claimant's impairment's were non-exertional.
- (3) On February 9, 2009, the department caseworker sent claimant notice that her application was denied.

- (4) On April 28, 2009, claimant filed a request for a hearing to contest the department's negative action.
- (5) On October 28, 2009, the State Hearing Review Team again denied claimant's application stating that it needed additional medical information.
- (6) The hearing was held on August 26, 2009. At the hearing, claimant waived the time periods and requested to submit additional medical information.
- (7) Additional medical information was submitted and sent to the State Hearing Review Team on August 29, 2009.
- (8) On June 13, 2011, this Administrative Law Judge received an SOLQ from the Social Security Administration which indicates that claimant has been approved for RSDI benefits from the Social Security Administration with a disability onset date of January 1, 2005.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The regulations governing the hearing and appeal process for applicants and recipients of public assistance in Michigan are found in the Michigan Administrative Code, MAC R 400.901-400.951. An opportunity for a hearing shall be granted to an applicant who requests a hearing because his or her claim for assistance has been denied. MAC R 400.903(1). Clients have the right to contest a department decision affecting eligibility or benefit levels whenever it is believed that the decision is incorrect. The department will provide an administrative hearing to review the decision and determine the appropriateness of that decision. BAM 600.

The State Disability Assistance (SDA) program which provides financial assistance for disabled persons is established by 2004 PA 344. The Department of Human Services (DHS or department) administers the SDA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, et seq., and MAC R 400.3151-400.3180. Department policies are found in the Program Administrative Manual (PAM), the Program Eligibility Manual (PEM) and the Program Reference Manual (PRM).

The Medical Assistance (MA) program is established by Title XIX of the Social Security Act and is implemented by Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The Department of Human Services (DHS or department) administers the MA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and MCL 400.105. Department policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Program Reference Manual (PRM).

Because of the Social Security Administration determination it is not necessary for the Administrative Law Judge to discuss the issue of disability. BEM, Item 260. The department is required to initiate a determination of claimant's financial eligibility for the requested benefits if not previously done.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides that the claimant meets the definition of medically disabled under the Medical Assistance and State Disability Assistance program as of the September 29, 2008, application date and for the 3 months retroactive Medical Assistance of June, July and August 2008.

Accordingly, the department's decision is REVERSED. The department is ORDERED to initiate a review of the September 29, 2008, application and retroactive Medical Assistance application if it has not already done so to determine if all other non-medical eligibility criteria are met. The department shall inform the claimant of a determination in writing.

<u>/s/</u>

Landis Y. Lain Administrative Law Judge for Maura D. Corrigan, Director Department of Human Services

Date Signed: __July 22, 2011

Date Mailed: <u>July 27, 2011</u>

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.

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.

LYL/alc

