## STATE OF MICHIGAN STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES

# ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF:

Claimant

Reg No:20102849Issue No:3000, 2000Case No:Image: Constraint of the second sec

# 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 Detroit, Michigan on January 21, 2010. The Claimant was present and testified. **Claimant also** appeared on behalf of Claimant. Karla Brooks-Tally, FIS and Maryann Tubbs, FIM, appeared on behalf of the Department.

#### **ISSUES**

Whether the Department properly closed Claimant's Food Assistance Program ("FAP") case effective 10/1/09 due to excess income?

Whether the Department properly closed Claimant's Medical Assistance Program ("MA-P") benefits effective 10/1/09 due to excess income?

## 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 an active FAP and MA-P recipient.
- The Department, per Bridges, recalculated Claimant's FAP and MA budgets in September, 2009.
- 3. The Department acknowledged that there was a discrepancy in the amount of income attributed to Claimant.
- 4. At the hearing, the Department agreed to reopen and recalculate Claimant's FAP benefits from October 1, 2009 forward utilizing the actual amount of income received.
- 5. The Department further agreed to reopen and review Claimant's MA-P case recalculating using actual income received.
- 6. As a result of this agreement, Claimant indicated that she 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 Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Program Reference Manual (PRM).

Under Bridges 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 reopen and recalculate Claimant's FAP and MA-P cases as of October 1, 2009 utilizing actual income received. 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.

Accordingly, it is ORDERED that:

- 1. The Department shall reopen and recalculate Claimant's FAP and MA-P benefits from October 1, 2009 forward utilizing actual income received in accordance with this settlement agreement.
- 2. The Department shall supplement the Claimant for any lost benefits she was otherwise entitled to receive.

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

Date Signed: \_\_\_03/10/10\_\_\_\_\_

Date Mailed: 03/11/10

**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.

JV/dj