

STATE OF MICHIGAN
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 2010-41200
Issue No.: 1003/2006/3008
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Load No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: November 3, 2010
Oakland County DHS (4)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Michael J. Bennane

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 a hearing. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on November 3, 2010. The claimant appeared and testified.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly close the Claimant's Family Independence Program (FIP), Medical Assistance (MA) and Food Assistance (FAP) due to the Claimant's failure to cooperate with the Office of Child Support?

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 February 9, 2010, the department sent the claimant a notice that her FIP, FAP, and MA would be the subject of a redetermination. (Department exhibit 1)
2. On March 3, 2010, the department sent the claimant a notice that she had missed an interview. (Department exhibit 2)
3. On March 12, 2010, the department notified the claimant that she was viewed as not cooperating with the office of child support. (Department exhibit 3)
4. On April 1, 2010, the department closed the claimants FIP, FAP and MA programs. (Department exhibit 4)

5. The Claimant testified that she had supplied the Office of Child Support and the court all the information she had on the child's father.
6. On April 1, 2010, the Claimant filed a request for a hearing.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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 (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the MA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, et seq., and MCL 400.105. Department policies are found in the Program Administrative Manual (PAM), the Program Eligibility Manual (PEM) and the Program Reference Manual (PRM).

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).

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).

FIP, CDC Income Eligible, MA and FAP

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 receive assistance, unless a claim of good cause for not cooperating has been granted or is pending. (PEM 255, p. 1)

The Department received information that the Claimant had failed to cooperate with the office of child support.

At the hearing, the Claimant testified that she missed the scheduled interview because she was in the hospital and provided documentation of her hospitalization. In addition, the claimant testified had supplied all known information about the father of her child immediately after the child's birth.

The office of child support was unavailable and therefore unable to provide any evidence to the contrary. Therefore, the undersigned finds that the Claimant has complied and cooperated with the Office of Child Support.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, finds that the department erred in closing the claimant's FIP, FAP, and MA, and REVERSES and ORDERS the Department to assume her compliance with the Office of Child Support and reinstate her FIP, FAP, and MA back to April 1, 2010.



Michael J. Bennane
Administrative Law Judge
For Ismael Ahmed, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 11/29/2010

Date Mailed: 11/29/2010

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 of the rehearing decision.

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