

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.: 201049672
Issue No.: 3002
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Load No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: September 20, 2010
Wayne County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Aaron McClintic

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 September 20, 2010. The Claimant appeared and testified. [REDACTED] appeared on behalf of the Department.

ISSUE

Was the Department correct in determining Claimant's FAP benefits?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

- (1) Claimant was an on-going recipient of FAP benefits.
- (2) On June 4, 2010 the Department determined that Claimant's FAP benefits would be reduced to \$178 per month effective July 1, 2010, based on a verbal statement of expected earnings.
- (3) Claimant submitted verification of employment on July 13, 2010.
- (4) Claimant's FAP benefits were increased to \$367 on July 13, 2010 effective August 2010.

- (5) Claimant requested a hearing on August 4, 2010 contesting the determination of FAP benefits.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Food Assistance Program, 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"), formerly known as the Family Independence Agency, 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 Program Reference Manual ("PRM").

Department policy dictates how to budget income from a new job: Starting Income--starting income, use the best available information to prospect income for the benefit month. This may be based on expected work hours times the rate of pay. Or if payments from the new source have been received, use them in the budget for future months if they accurately reflect future income. If the payment is not hourly, use information from the source (e.g., from the employer on the DHS-38), along with information from the client, and/or any checks the client may already have received to determine the prospective amount. BEM 505

In the present case, Claimant verbally informed her case worker that she was expecting to work 80 hours every two weeks earning \$7.40 per hour. The Department prepared a budget based on Claimant's expected earnings pursuant to Department policy and her FAP benefit was reduced to \$178 per month for July 2010. BEM 505. Once verifications were returned on July 13, 2010 FAP benefits were rebudgeted pursuant to Department policy, and Claimant's FAP benefit increased to \$367 for August 2010, and going forward. The Department's actions were consistent with Department policy and were proper and correct.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, finds that the Department properly calculated the Claimant's FAP benefits, and it

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is ORDERED that the Department's decision in this regard be, and is, hereby AFFIRMED.

/s/



Aaron McClintic
Administrative Law Judge
For Ismael Ahmed, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: September 29, 2010

Date Mailed: September 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.

AM/hw

cc:

