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.: Hearing Date: 2011-44747 3000

August 22, 2011 Wayne County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Susan Burke

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 t elephone hearing was held on August 22, 2011 in De troit, Michigan. Claimant appeared and testified. The Department of H uman Serv ices (Department) was represented by

ISSUE

Was the D epartment correct in i ts calculation of Claimant's Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

- 1. Claimant applied for FAP on March 17, 2011.
- 2. The Department approved Claimant's app lication and determined that Claimant was entitled to FAP benefits in the amount of \$16.00.
- 3. Claimant requested a hearing, protesting the amount of FAP benefits.
- 4. At the hearing, the D epartment agreed to recalculat e Claimant's FAP benefits, effective the date of the application, March 17, 2011.

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5. As a result of this agreement, Claim ant indicated she no lo nger wis hed to proceed with the hearing.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Food Assistanc e Program (FAP) (formerly known as the Food Stamp (FS) program) is establis hed by the Food St amp Act of 1977, as amended, and is implemented by the federal r egulations 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 CML 400.10 *et seq.*, and MAC R 400.3001-3015. Department policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manua I (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (B EM) 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 department provides an Administrative Hearing to review the decision and determine if it is appropriate. Department policy includes procedures to meet the minimal requirements for a fair hearing. E fforts to clarify and resolve the client's concerns start when the department receives a hearing request and continues through the day of the hearing.

In the present case the Department has agr eed to recalculate Clai mant's FAP benefits effective March 17, 2011. As a result of this agreement, Claimant indic ated she no longer wis hed 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 on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law decides that the Depar tment and Claimant have come to a settlement regarding Claimant's request for a hearing. Therefore, it is ORDERED:

- 1. The Department shall recalculat e Claim ant's FAP benefits, effective March 17, 2011, in accordance with the settlement.
- 2. The Department shall issue supplemental payments for any missed or increased payments from March 17, 2011 and ongoing.

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Susan Burke Administrative Law Judge For Maura Corrigan, Director Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 8/25/11

Date Mailed: 8/25/11

NOTICE: Administrative Hearings may order a rehearing or reconsideration on either its own motion or at the request of a party wit hin 30 days of the ma iling date of this Decision and Order. Administrative Hear ings will not orde r a rehearing or reconsideration on the Department's mo tion where the final decis ion 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 ti mely request for rehearing was made, within 30 days of the receipt of the rehearing decision.

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