

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 2011-25714
Issue No.: 2006
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Load No.: 8241000000
Hearing Date:
April 27, 2011
Wayne County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Michael J. Bennane

HEARING DECISION

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9; MSA 16.409 and MCL 400.37; MSA 16.437 upon the Claimant's request for a hearing. After due notice a telephone hearing was held on April 27, 2011. The claimant appeared and testified.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly close the claimant's Medical Assistance (MA)?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. The claimant was a MA recipient.
2. On [REDACTED], the department closed the claimant's MA for noncooperation with the office of child support (OCS).
3. On [REDACTED], 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 department closed the claimant's MA due to noncooperation with the OCS.


DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

Families are strengthened when children's needs are met. Parents have a responsibility to meet their children's needs by providing support and/or cooperating with the department including the Office of Child Support (OCS), the Friend of the Court (FOC) and the prosecuting attorney to establish paternity and/or obtain support from an absent parent. (BEM 255, p.1).

At the hearing, the claimant testified that she had supplied the OCS with all the information she had concerning her two children's father. This ALJ finds this testimony good evidence of the claimant's cooperation with the OCS. It should also be noted that the OCS did not attend the hearing and no evidence was offered, other than the testimony of the department, that it had been notified by the OCS that the claimant was not cooperating.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, **REVERSES AND ORDERS** the department to retroactively reinstate the claimant's MA back to the closure date of March 1, 2011; replacing any lost benefits, if applicable.


Michael J. Bennane
Administrative Law Judge
For Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: June 8, 2011

Date Mailed: June 8, 2011

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 receipt 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.

MJB/hw

cc:

