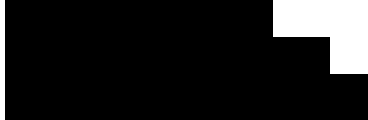


STATE OF MICHIGAN
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLAIM OF:



Reg. No.: 2011-4764
Issue No.: 2006
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Load No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: December 8, 2010
Macomb County DHS (12)

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 December 8, 2010. 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 upon the competent, material, and substantial evidence on the whole record, finds a material fact:

1. On September 30, 2010, the department began a redetermination of the claimant's MA.
2. On October 31, 2010, the department closed the claimant's MA for lack of verification.
3. On October 25, 2010, the claimant filed a request for a hearing.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Medical Assistance (MA) program is established by the 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

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400.105. Department policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Program Reference Manual (PRM).

In the instant case, the claimant testified that she contacted the department numerous times, through facsimile, mail and telephone, seeking the assistance of the department in procuring the requested verifications and in completing the redetermination packet.

Obtaining Verification

All Programs

...The client must obtain required verification, but you must assist if they need and request help.

If neither the client nor you can obtain verification despite a reasonable effort, use the best available information. If **no** evidence is available, use your best judgment. (PAM 130, pp. 2-3)

Here, this ALJ finds the claimant's testimony credible. The department's failure to assist the claimant is controlling. The department did not assist the claimant contrary to the policy cited above.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, **REVERSES AND ORDERS** the department to reopen the claimant's MA, begin the redetermination process again and assist her in procuring the necessary documentation.



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

Date Signed: 1/05/2011

Date Mailed: 1/05/2011

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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.

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cc:

