

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No: 201219391
Issue No: 1022, 3014, 2024
Case No: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: January 25, 2012
Genesee County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Kevin Scully

HEARING DECISION

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and MCL 400.37 following Claimant's request for a hearing. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on Wednesday, January 25, 2012, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included [REDACTED]. Participants on behalf of Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED].

ISSUE

Did the Department properly remove a minor child from the Claimant's benefit group in the Family Independence Program (FIP), Food Assistance Program (FAP), and Medical Assistance (MA) programs?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. Claimant applied for benefits received benefits for: Family Independence Program (FIP). Adult Medical Assistance (AMP). Food Assistance Program (FAP). State Disability Assistance (SDA). Medical Assistance (MA). Child Development and Care (CDC).
2. The Claimant has joint custody of her daughter [REDACTED].
3. On November 23, 2011, the Department denied Claimant's application closed Claimant's case due to the removal of the Claimant's minor child from her benefits group.
4. On November 23, 2011, the Department sent Claimant Claimant's Authorized Representative (AR) notice of the denial. closure.

5. On December 6, 2011, Claimant filed a hearing request, protesting the denial of the application. closure of the case.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Department policies are contained in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM), and the Reference Tables Manual (RFT).

The Family Independence Program (FIP) was established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Public Law 104-193, 42 USC 601, *et seq.* The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers FIP pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and 1999 AC, R 400.3101 through Rule 400.3131. FIP replaced the Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) program effective October 1, 1996.

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 (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and 1999 AC, R 400.3001 through Rule 400.3015.

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 400.105.

The Adult Medical Program (AMP) is established by 42 USC 1315, and is administered by the Department pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*

The State Disability Assistance (SDA) program, which provides financial assistance for disabled persons, is established by 2004 PA 344. The Department of Human Services (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the SDA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and 2000 AACS, R 400.3151 through Rule 400.3180.

The Child Development and Care (CDC) program is established by Titles IVA, IVE and XX of the Social Security Act, the Child Care and Development Block Grant of 1990, and the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996. The program is implemented by Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 98 and 99. The Department provides services to adults and children pursuant to MCL 400.14(1) and 1999 AC, R 400.5001 through Rule 400.5015.

Additionally, the Claimant was an ongoing recipient of Family Independence Program (FIP), Food Assistance Program (FAP), and Medical Assistance (MA). The Claimant

has joint custody of a minor child [REDACTED] that was a member of the Claimant's benefit group.

The Department removed the Claimant's child from her benefit group when the child's father applied for benefits in another county.

The Department failed to establish that it properly determined the child's primary caretaker. The Department's representative testified that based on the information in her possession, that she was unable to determine which parent cared for the child for a majority of the time each month.

The Claimant testified that she cared for her daughter for more days, on average each month, than the child's father. This Department failed to rebut this testimony.

Based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated on the record, the Administrative Law Judge concludes that the Department properly denied Claimant's application improperly denied Claimant's application properly closed Claimant's case improperly closed Claimant's case for: AMP FIP FAP MA SDA CDC.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated on the record, finds that the Department did act properly. did not act properly.

Accordingly, the Department's AMP FIP FAP MA SDA CDC decision is AFFIRMED **REVERSED** for the reasons stated on the record.

THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO DO THE FOLLOWING WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE DATE OF MAILING OF THIS DECISION AND ORDER:

The Department's Family Independence Program (FIP), Food Assistance Program (FAP), and Medical Assistance (MA) eligibility determinations are REVERSED. It is further ORDERED that the Department shall:

1. Initiate a determination of the Claimant's eligibility for Family Independence Program (FIP), Food Assistance Program (FAP), and Medical Assistance (MA) as of November 1, 2011.
2. Allow the Claimant the opportunity to clarify whether she is her daughter's primary caretaker.
3. Provide the Claimant with written notification of the Department's revised eligibility determination.

4. Issue the Claimant any retroactive benefits she may be eligible to receive, if any.

/s/
Kevin Scully
Administrative Law Judge
For Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: January 26, 2012

Date Mailed: January 27, 2012

NOTICE: Michigan Administrative Hearing System (MAHS) 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. MAHS 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. (60 days for FAP cases)

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.

Claimant may request a rehearing or reconsideration for the following reasons:

- A rehearing **MAY** be granted if there is newly discovered evidence that could affect the outcome of the original hearing decision.
- A reconsideration **MAY** be granted for any of the following reasons:
- misapplication of manual policy or law in the hearing decision,
- typographical errors, mathematical error, or other obvious errors in the hearing decision that effect the substantial rights of the claimant:
- the failure of the ALJ to address other relevant issues in the hearing decision.

201219391/KS

Request must be submitted through the local DHS office or directly to MAHS by mail at

Michigan Administrative hearings
Reconsideration/Rehearing Request
P. O. Box 30639
Lansing, Michigan 48909-07322

KS/tb

cc:

