

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 2012 31527
Issue No.: 3003
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: March 7, 2012
County: Wayne County DHS (18)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Lynn M. Ferris

SETTLEMENT ORDER

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 March 7, 2012, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included the Claimant and her authorized hearing representative, [REDACTED]. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED], FIM and [REDACTED] ES.

ISSUE

Whether the Department properly:

- denied Claimant's application for benefits
- closed Claimant's case for benefits
- reduced Claimant's benefits

for:

- Family Independence Program (FIP)?
- Food Assistance Program (FAP)?
- Medical Assistance (MA)?
- Adult Medical Assistance (AMP)?
- State Disability Assistance (SDA)?
- Child Development and Care (CDC)?
- State Emergency Services (SER)?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. On March 1, 2012, the Department:

- denied Claimant's application for benefits
- closed Claimant's case for benefits
- reduced Claimant's benefits

under the following program(s):

- FIP FAP MA AMP SDA CDC SER.

2. On January 27, 2012, the Department sent notice to Claimant (or Claimant's Authorized Hearing Representative) of the:

- denial
- closure
- reduction.

3. On February 6, 2012, Claimant filed a request for hearing concerning the Department's action.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Department policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM), the Reference Tables Manual (RFT), and the State Emergency Relief Manual (ERM).

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, Rule 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, Rule 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, Rule 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, Rule 400.5001 through Rule 400.5015.

The State Emergency Relief (SER) program is established by 2004 PA 344. The SER program is administered pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and by 1999 AC, Rule 400.7001 through Rule 400.7049. Department policies are found in the State Emergency Relief Manual (ERM).

The law provides that disposition may be made of a contested case by stipulation or agreed settlement. MCL 24.278(2).

In the present case, Claimant requested a hearing to dispute the Department's action. Soon after commencement of the hearing, the parties testified that they had reached a settlement concerning the disputed action. Consequently, the Department agreed to do the following: Because the Department acknowledged that it did not seek verification of child support payment obligations when the Claimant had provided information to it that a child support obligation was owed and being paid by the Claimant, the Department agreed to assist the Claimant to obtain the child support information. The Department agreed to assist the Claimant to verify the child support arrearage obligation of Claimant's husband claimed by the State of Arkansas Office of Child Support enforcement, and to obtain proof of a judgment for child support or an administrative order for child support; the Department also agreed to contact the Social Security Administration to determine whether the garnishment of \$175 currently garnished from the Claimant's husband's RSDI check is for child support arrears. Lastly, the Department agreed, upon verification of the child support arrearage obligation based upon the best available information, to recalculate the Claimant's FAP benefits retroactive to June 30, 2011 to include the verified child support obligation for arrearage based on its determination of the child support arrearage obligation and the amounts paid by the Claimant.

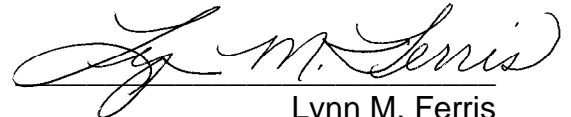
As a result of this settlement, Claimant no longer wishes to proceed with the hearing. As such, it is unnecessary for this Administrative Law Judge to render a decision regarding the facts and issues in this case.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge concludes that the Department and Claimant have come to a settlement regarding Claimant's request for a hearing.

THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

1. The Department shall initiate assisting the Claimant to verify the child support arrearage obligation of Claimant's husband's claimed by the State of Arkansas Office of Child Support enforcement to obtain proof of a judgment or an administrative order for child support.
2. The Department shall also initiate contact with the Social Security Administration to determine whether the garnishment of \$175 currently garnished from the Claimant's husband's RSDI check is for child support arrears.
3. The Department shall, upon verification of the child support arrearage obligation based upon the best available information, initiate recalculation of the Claimant's FAP benefits retroactive to June 30, 2011 to include the monthly verified child support obligation for arrearage based on its determination of the child support obligation and the amounts paid by the Claimant's husband for child support arrearages.



Lynn M. Ferris
Administrative Law Judge
for Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: March 12, 2012

Date Mailed: March 12, 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.

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

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

LMF/hw

cc:

