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

IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No.: 2012-53049 Issue Nos.: 3004, 3023 Case No.: June 14, 2012 Hearing Date: Wayne (82-43) County:

SUPERVISING ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Kathleen H. Svoboda

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 June 14, 2012, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included Claimant. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included

ISSUE

Did the Department properly \Box deny Claimant's application \boxtimes close Claimant's case for:

\times	

Family Independence Program (FIP)?

Food Assistance Program (FAP)? Medical Assistance (MA)?

Adult Medical Assistance (AMP)?

State Disability Assistance (SDA)?

Child Development and Care (CDC)?

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). Food Assistance Program (FAP).

Medical Assistance (MA).

Adult Medical Assistance (AMP).

State Disability Assistance (SDA).

Child Development and Care (CDC).

- 2. On May 1, 2012, the Department ☐ denied Claimant's application ⊠ closed Claimant's case.
- On March 20, 2012, the Department sent
 □ Claimant □ Claimant's Authorized Representative (AR) notice of the □ denial. □ closure.
- 4. On May 15, 2012, Claimant filed a hearing request, protesting the \Box denial of the application. \boxtimes 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, 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.

Additionally, Claimant filed a new application for FAP benefits subsequent to the closure of her FAP benefits that was affirmed at an administrative hearing conducted on April 2, 2012.

The Hearing Summary submitted in this case references this April 2, 2012, administrative hearing and the Hearing Decision and does not reference the new application.

Claimant's Request for Hearing is dated May 15, 2012, and is based upon a Notice of Case Action dated March 20, 2012, which is the date referenced in the Hearing Summary. This Notice of Case Action relates to the new application for FAP that Claimant filed on or about March 17, 2012, per Claimant's testimony. A review of the Hearing Decision after the April 2, 2012, hearing reveals that the action taken by the Department that was affirmed related to a Notice of Case Action dated February 10, 2012.

Claimant testified that she completed a new application. The Department was not able to produce that application. The Assistance Payments Worker who testified confirmed that she had no knowledge of the case and was not able to explain why the Hearing Summary did not address the new application and March 20, 2012, Notice of Case Action.

Pursuant to BAM 600, the Department has the burden of proving that the action taken was in accordance with policy. Further, the Department must submit sufficient proof to support its position.

The Department seemed to rely upon a previous hearing, yet failed to produce evidence relating to the current case closure and Claimant's application from March 17, 2012.

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	$\boxtimes FAP$	🗌 MA 🗌] SDA [CDC.
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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

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 \Box did act properly. \Box did not act properly.

Accordingly, the Department's \square AMP \square FIP \boxtimes FAP \square MA \square SDA \square CDC decision is \square AFFIRMED \boxtimes 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:

- 1. Initiate payment of FAP benefits back to date of closure of May 1, 2012.
- 2. Initiate processing of Claimant's March 17, 2012, application for FAP benefits .

Kathleen H. Svoboda Supervising Administrative Law Judge for Maura Corrigan, Director Department of Human Services

Date Signed: August 23, 2012

Date Mailed: August 23, 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 <u>MAY</u> 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 at Michigan Administrative Hearings Reconsideration/Rehearing Request P. O. Box 30639 Lansing, Michigan 48909-07322

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