

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**



Reg. No.: 2012 66755  
Issue No.: 5016, 5020  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: March 13, 2013  
County: Oakland County DHS (03)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Lynn M. Ferris

**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 March 13, 2013, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included the Claimant. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED], Assistance Payments Supervisor.

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly deny Claimant's request for State Emergency Relief (SER) assistance with energy or utility service(s)?

**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 July 7, 2012, Claimant applied for SER assistance with energy or utility service.
2. On July 13, 2012, the Department sent notice of the application denial to Claimant.
3. The gross unearned income used by the Department was \$2642 based upon Claimant's RSDI of \$1945 and \$581 and \$116 received by his son as a household member.
4. The Claimant's application listed a household of two group members. Claimant did not list his grandchild who was living in the household at the time.

5. On July 19, 2012, the Department received Claimant's hearing request, protesting the SER denial.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

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).

Additionally, at the hearing the Department established the unearned income received by the Claimant's household as \$2642. Exhibits 1-3. Based upon the evidence provided in Exhibit 1, 2 and 3, the income amounts were properly established as correct. The Department denied the Claimant's application because the group's income after the need amount of \$500 was deducted was \$2142 and exceeded the amount of the emergency funds sought by Claimant \$450 for utility assistance. Once the group's net income exceeds the amount of emergency funds sought, the applicant is deemed not eligible. ERM 208, pp4 (8-1-12). The application was reviewed at the hearing and it was also established that the Claimant's application only included 2 group members, the Claimant and his son, not his grandson.

Based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for reasons stated on the record, the Administrative Law Judge concludes that the Department

☒ properly denied ☐ improperly denied

Claimant's SER application for assistance with energy and utility services.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for reasons stated on the record, finds that the Department

☒ did act properly. ☐ did not act properly.

Accordingly, the Department's decision is ☒AFFIRMED ☐REVERSED for the reasons stated on the record.



**Lynn M. Ferris**

Administrative Law Judge  
for Maura Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: March 26, 2013

Date Mailed: March 26, 2013

**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.

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 at

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

LMF/cl

cc:

