

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 2012 10898
Issue No.: 3000
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: December 22, 2011
DHS County: Wayne (35)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Jonathan W. Owens

SETTLEMENT ORDER

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and MCL 400.37 upon Claimant's request for a hearing. After due notice, an in person hearing was held on December 22, 2011 in Redford, MI. Claimant appeared and testified. The Claimant was represented by [REDACTED]. The Department of Human Services (Department) was represented by [REDACTED].

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 August 31, 2011, the Claimant submitted her redetermination paperwork.

2. A new budget was completed by the Department utilizing the reported income of \$1555.20 for [REDACTED] employment and \$403 in unearned income for [REDACTED] Family Independence Program (FIP) case. This resulted in FAP benefits being reduced from \$205 to \$75. Effective October 2011.
3. On October 6, 2011, the Claimant testified information was submitted to the child support.
4. On October 21, 2011, noncooperation implemented after two letters being sent to the Claimant requesting [REDACTED] contact the child support.
5. On October 25, 2011, the Department found a member in the Claimant's FAP group was in noncooperation with Child support and implemented a sanction. This action reduced the Claimant's FAP benefits from \$75 to \$16.
6. On November 3, 2011 the Claimant requested a hearing.

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: the Office of Child Support agreed to remove the noncooperation sanction back to the date it was placed. The Department agreed to supplement the Claimant for the loss in FAP benefits beginning in December 2011, once the Office of Child Support removed the noncooperation sanction. The Claimant agreed to this action being taken. The Claimant was not disputing the reduction in FAP benefits that originally occurred due to income in the household changing.

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 Office of Child Support is to initiate removal of the noncooperation sanction.

2. The Department will, once the noncooperation sanction is removed, supplement the Claimant for any loss in FAP benefits, beginning December 1, 2011.



Jonathan W. Owens
Administrative Law Judge
for Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 12/28/11

Date Mailed: 12/28/11

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.

JWO / dj

cc:

