

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 2012-60283  
Issue No.: 2019  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: [REDACTED]  
County: [REDACTED]

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Janice G. Spodarek

**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 [REDACTED], Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included [REDACTED], legal guardian and sibling and witness, [REDACTED]. Participants on behalf of Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED] APS.

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly calculate claimant's Medicaid Long-Term Care co-pay?

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

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

1. At all relevant times, claimant was a long-term care patient.
2. Claimant has Medicaid.
3. At re-determination, the worker input previously unreported pension information into claimant's budget. Claimant also was no longer paying Part D premium. The increase in the pension and decrease in the Part D caused a new patient pay amount of \$1,473 beginning [REDACTED].
4. The department issued notice of the new patient pay amount on [REDACTED].
5. On [REDACTED] claimant's guardian requested a hearing.

6. Claimant also has an [REDACTED] per month in child support arrearage. Due to claimant's resulting net calculation, claimant's income is \$20.00 less than the co-pay amount.

### **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 Mich Admin Code, R 400.3101 through R 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 Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001 through R 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 ACS, R 400.3151 through R 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 Mich Admin Code, R 400.5001 through R 400.5015.

Applicable policy and procedure to the issues herein is found in BAM Item 130; BEM Items 503 – 546.

The department is required to count the gross amount of income an individual receives. In this case, a review of the budget indicates that the department correctly counted the gross income which claimant is paid by the SSA. Unfortunately, the department is not allowed to add back into the gross amount deductions taken for garnishments, such as claimant's which is being taken for past child support arrearages.

As noted in the findings of facts, the unfortunate result herein is that claimant is short \$20.00 per month after the [REDACTED]. It is also noted that the change which triggered a new patient pay amount on the budget was due to claimant no longer paying a Part D premium as well as a pension being budgeted anew.

While the result here is unfortunate, claimant's guardian cited no law or policy which would allow the department to add back in the garnishment amount or to give any hardship remedy. Administrative Law Judges simple do not have such authority in either case. The department's actions must be upheld.

### **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 when it calculated claimant's co-pay amount at \$1,473 per month beginning April 1, 2012.

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Janice G. Spodarek**  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Maura Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: [REDACTED]

Date Mailed: [REDACTED]

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

JGS/jk

cc:



MAHS