

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 201276303
Issue No.: 4070
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: March 5, 2013
County: Washtenaw County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Suzanne Morris

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 5, 2013, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included Claimant, his mother, [REDACTED], and his grandmother, [REDACTED]. Participants on behalf of Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED].

ISSUE

Due to a failure to comply with the verification requirements, did the Department properly deny Claimant's application close Claimant's case reduce Claimant's benefits for:

- State Supplement SSI Payment (SSP) Child Development and Care (CDC)?
 Food Assistance Program (FAP)?
 Medical Assistance (MA)?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. Claimant applied for was receiving: FIP FAP MA SSP CDC.
2. Claimant was was not provided with a New Hire Client Notice (DHS-4635)
3. Claimant was required to submit requested verification by May 31, 2012.

4. On August 21, 2012, the Department
 - denied Claimant's application
 - closed Claimant's case
 - reduced Claimant's benefits for SSP payments.

5. On August 21, 2012, the Department sent notice of the
 - denial of Claimant's application.
 - closure of Claimant's case.
 - reduction of Claimant's benefits.

6. On August 28, 2012, Claimant filed a hearing request, protesting the
 - denial. closure. reduction.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Department policies are found 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, R 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, R 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 (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the MA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and MCL 400.105.

The State Disability Assistance (SDA) program which provides financial assistance for disabled persons is established by 2004 PA 344. The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the SDA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and 2000 AACS, R 400.3151 through Rule 400.3180.

The State Supplementary Security Income program was established pursuant to Title XVI of the Social Security Act in 42 USC 1381, *et seq.*, and implemented by the provisions of Title 20 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The Department of

Human Services (DHS or department) administers the State SSI program pursuant to 2002 PA 529, MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and by agreement between the State of Michigan and the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services (Secretary). Department policies are contained in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Bridges Reference Table (RFT).

Additionally, the department representatives testified that the claimant's SSP payment stopped because he failed to provide the New Hire Client Notice back to the department by the due date. However, once this Administrative Law Judge further examined the documentation after going off the record, it became clear that this was not the case. The claimant's Medicare Cost Savings program was closed for failure to provide the required verifications. This was not the issue that the claimant submitted a hearing request to dispute. The notice of State SSI Payment Change that the claimant submitted a hearing request for indicates that the claimant's State SSI payment has been cancelled because the Social Security Administration determined the claimant did not receive a regular first of the month check for the previous three months. The department provided no evidence on whether or not the claimant did receive regular first of the month SSI checks for the proceeding three months. Thus, the department must go back and review the SOLQ report and determine if the client received regular SSI payments and if the claimant is entitled to receive the SSP payment for the period that the claimant did not receive the SSP.

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 improperly

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

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. did not act properly.

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED REVERSED for the reasons put forth in this decision.

THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO DO THE FOLLOWING WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE DATE OF MAILING OF THIS DECISION AND ORDER:

Initiate a redetermination of the claimant's SSP eligibility beginning August 21, 2012 to determine if the claimant received regular SSI monthly checks. If the claimant received regular monthly SSI checks, then issue any retroactive SSP benefits the claimant is entitled to receive. SO ORDERED.

/s/ _____
Suzanne L. Morris
Administrative Law Judge
For Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: March 11, 2013

Date Mailed: March 11, 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 receipt 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

SLM/cr

cc:

