

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**



Reg. No.: 201310892  
Issue No.: 2018  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: April 22, 2013  
County: Wayne County (#43)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: MICHELLE HOWIE**

**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 conducted on Monday April 22, 2013 from Detroit, MI. The Claimant appeared and testified. Participant on behalf of Department of Human Services (Department) was [REDACTED] (Eligibility Specialist).

**ISSUE**

Whether the Department properly terminated the Claimant's Medical Assistance (MA) benefits?

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

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

1. The Claimant and her son were ongoing MA recipients.
2. On October 20, 2012, the Department sent Notice of Case Action that the Claimant's and her son's MA benefits were closing.
3. On October 29, 2013, the Department received the Claimant's written hearing request disputing the action.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The Department of Human Services (DHS) policies are contained in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM), and the Reference Tables Manual (RFT).

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.

In this case, the evidence is insufficient to support a finding that the Department acted in accordance with policy when it closed the Claimant's and her son's Medicaid case. The Department has the burden of establishing by a preponderance of the evidence that it acted in accordance with policy in any action taken that negatively affects a client. On this record, the Department did not meet its burden. The Department did not present sufficient credible documentary evidence such as a budget, notice of case action or other necessary documentation to substantiate the basis for the Department's action. While the Department representative testified that reason for closure was due to the son turning 21 years old, there was nothing in the record to support the assertion. The Claimant testified that she believed they are both eligible for MA due to her son's medical condition and her own medical issues. Notably, there is nothing in the record that indicates the Department considered any other MA programs prior to closure as required per policy.

Accordingly, the Department's action is not 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 not establish it acted in accordance with policy when it closed the Claimant and her son's Medicaid case.

Accordingly, the Department's  MA determination is hereby, **REVERSED**.

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

1. The Department shall reinstate the Claimant's MA benefit retroactive to the effective date of closure.
2. The Department shall determine whether the Claimant is eligible for any MA programs and process accordingly prior to taking any negative action on the current MA cases in accordance with Department policy.

3. The Department shall issue a proper notice of case action in compliance with policy to include the denial, the basis for denial and the right to request a hearing.



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

Date Signed: 5/2/2013

Date Mailed: 5/2/2013

**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. (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

MH/hw

cc:

