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

IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No.: 2013-30038

Issue No.: 2006

Case No.:

Hearing Date: June 6, 2013 County: Wayne (17)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Susan C. Burke

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 June 6, 2013, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included Claimant. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included Research Case Manager.

<u>ISSUE</u>

Due to a failure to comply with the verification requirements, did the Department properly close Claimant's Medical Assistance (MA) case?

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 was receiving MA.
- 2. On November 8, 2012, the Department issued to Claimant a Notice of Case Action, indicating that Claimant's continued coverage of MA was denied, effective December 1, 2012, due to Claimant failing to verify information
- 3. On February 5, 2013, Claimant filed a hearing request, protesting the closure of his MA case.
- 4. At the hearing, the Department did not present into evidence written documentation showing that the Department requested Claimant to verify information and by what date Claimant was to submit the verification.

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 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.

Clients must cooperate with the local DHS office in obtaining verification for determining initial and ongoing eligibility. BAM 105; BAM 130. The client should be allowed 10 calendar days to provide the verification. BAM 130. If the client refuses to provide the information or has not made a reasonable effort within the specified time period, then policy directs that a negative action be issued. *Id.* "Tell the client what verification is required, how to obtain it, and the due ate; see **Timeliness of Verifications** in this item. Use the DHS-3503, Verification Checklist (VCL), or for MA redeterminations, the DHS-1175, MA Determination Notice, to request verification." *Id.*

In the present case, On November 8, 2012, the Department issued to Claimant a Notice of Case Action, indicating that Claimant's continued coverage of MA was denied, effective December 1, 2012, due to Claimant failing to verify information. However, at the hearing, the Department did not present into evidence written documentation showing that the Department requested Claimant to verify information and by what date Claimant was to submit the verification. Without proof that the Department issued the request for verification properly, (e.g., the DHS 1175), it cannot be concluded that the Department was correct in its decision to close Claimant's MA case.

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 improperly

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 act properly.

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

THE DEPARTMENT SHALL BEGIN THE PROCESS OF THE FOLLOWING STEPS WITHIN TEN DAYS OF THE MAILING OF THIS ORDER:

- 1. Initiate reinstatement of Claimant's MA case, effective December 1, 2012, if Claimant is otherwise eligible for MA.
- 2. Issue a written notice to Claimant regarding his eligibility for MA.

Susan C. Burke

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

Date Signed: June 13, 2013
Date Mailed: June 17, 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 <u>MAY</u> 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

SCB/tm

