

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 2013-34789  
Issue No.: 1002  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: April 15, 2013  
County: Wayne (82-15)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Eric Feldman

**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 April 15, 2013, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants included the above-named Claimant. Participants on behalf of Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED].

**ISSUE**

Whether Claimant applied for the Family Independence Program (FIP) on January 30, 2013?

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

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

1. Claimant applied for State Emergency Relief (SER) on January 28, 2013.
2. Claimant did not apply for FIP benefits on January 30, 2013.
3. On March 12, 2013, Claimant filed a request for hearing stating that she applied for FIP benefits on January 30, 2013, and that the Department did not issue a decision on that application.

**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 AACS, 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.

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).

Claimant contends that she applied for FIP benefits on January 30, 2013, and that the Department failed to process her FIP application.

Any person, regardless of age, or their authorized representative (AR) may apply for assistance. BAM 110 (January 2013), p. 4. The Department must register a signed application or filing form, with the minimum information, within one workday for all

requested programs. BAM 110, p. 16. For FIP cases, the Department must certify program approval or denial of the application within 45 days. BAM 115 (January 2013), p. 12. If the group is ineligible in the application process, the Department must certify the denial within the standard of promptness and also send a DHS-1605, Client Notice, or the DHS-1150, Application Eligibility Notice, with the denial reason(s). BAM 115, p. 18.

Claimant testified that she applied for FIP benefits via a paper application and brought that application to her Department office on January 30, 2013. Claimant testified that she gave the application to a front desk Department worker and signed the logbook that same day. Additionally, Claimant testified that she contacted a Department phone number to check the status of her FIP application during the second week of February 2013 and she testified that the Department number stated that her FIP application was pending. Claimant testified that during the middle of February 2013, she contacted both the Lansing Department phone number and her caseworker. Claimant also testified that both the Lansing number and her caseworker stated that she never applied for FIP benefits. Thereafter, Claimant filed a request for hearing concerning the Department's inaction in regard to Claimant's FIP application of January 30, 2013.

The Department credibly testified that Claimant never applied for FIP benefits on January 30, 2013. The Department found that Claimant applied for the SER on January 28, 2013, but no FIP application was done concurrently with the SER application on that date. (See Exhibit 1.) Moreover, at the hearing, the Department retrieved the logbook and both the Department and Claimant reviewed it simultaneously to see if Claimant signed it on or around January 30, 2013. Both the Department and Claimant testified that they did not discover any signature by Claimant in the logbook during that time period. Based on the foregoing evidence and testimony, Claimant failed to establish that she applied for FIP benefits on January 30, 2013. Thus, Claimant failed to show that the Department failed to process her FIP application.

Based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated above and on the record, the Administrative Law Judge concludes that the Department acted properly as Claimant failed to establish that she applied for FIP benefits on January 30, 2013.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated above and 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 stated above and on the record.



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

Date Signed: April 16, 2013

Date Mailed: April 16, 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

EJF/pf

cc:

