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

#### IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No.: 2013-46130 Issue No.: 3008 Case No.: June 5, 2013 Hearing Date: County: Wayne (49)

## **ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Jan Leventer

## **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 5, 2013, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included the Claimant. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included **Example 1**, Eligibility Specialist.

#### ISSUE

Did the Department properly  $\Box$  deny Claimant's application  $\boxtimes$  close Claimant's case for:

$\overline{\square}$	
$\bigtriangleup$	

Family Independence Program (FIP)?

Food Assistance Program (FAP)?

Medical Assistance (MA)?

Adult Medical Assistance (AMP)?

- State Disability Assistance (SDA)?
- Child Development and Care (CDC)?

## **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  $\square$  applied for benefits  $\bowtie$  received benefits for:



Family Independence Program (FIP). Food Assistance Program (FAP).

Medical Assistance (MA).

Adult Medical Assistance (AMP).

State Disability Assistance (SDA).

Child Development and Care (CDC).

2. On May 1, 2013, the Department

 $\Box$  denied Claimant's application  $\Box$  closed Claimant's case

due to a determination that Claimant failed to provide information necessary to determine her current benefit level.

- On April 30, 2013, the Department sent

   Claimant
   Claimant's Authorized Representative (AR)

   notice of the
   I denial. ∑ closure.
- 4. On May 6, 2013, Claimant filed a hearing request, protesting the ☐ denial of the application. ⊠ closure of the case.

## 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 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, Rule 400.3001 through Rule 400.3015.

Additionally, Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM) 105, "Rights and Responsibilities," requires the Department to determine eligibility, provide benefits, and protect client rights. The client for her part is required to cooperate with all requests for information necessary to determine eligibility, provide benefits, and protect client rights. Department of Human Services Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM) 105 (2013).

In this case, on March 12, 2012, the Department sent Claimant a Redetermination form requesting updated information. Dept. Exh. 1, pp. 5-9. At the hearing the Claimant testified that she did not open the letter until a date after the information was due in to the Department.

It is found and determined that the Claimant failed to execute her responsibility to the Department when she failed to read correspondence from the Department and provide the requested information. Without updated information the Department cannot determine continuing eligibility, calculate necessary benefit level changes, and protect client rights to benefits. Accordingly, it is found and determined that the Department acted correctly in this case in terminating Claimant's FAP benefits. BAM 105.

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 denied Claimant's application ⊠ properly closed Claimant's case

improperly denied Claimant's application
 improperly closed Claimant's case

for:  $\square$  AMP  $\square$  FIP  $\square$  FAP  $\square$  MA  $\square$  SDA  $\square$  CDC.

# **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  $\square$  AMP  $\square$  FIP  $\boxtimes$  FAP  $\square$  MA  $\square$  SDA  $\square$  CDC decision is  $\boxtimes$  AFFIRMED  $\square$  REVERSED for the reasons stated on the record.

Jan

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

Date Signed: June 6, 2013

Date Mailed: June 6, 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 <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 affect the substantial rights of the claimant,
  - 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

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