

**STATE OF MICHIGAN  
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES  
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**



Reg. No.: 201313307  
Issue No.: 1003  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: April 9, 2013  
County: Kent

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Gary F. Heisler

**HEARING DECISION**

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9; and MCL 400.37 upon claimant's request for a hearing. After due notice, a hearing was held on April 9, 2013. Claimant appeared and testified.

**ISSUE**

Did the Department of Human Services properly close Claimant's Family Independence Program (FIP) on November 1, 2012 for non-cooperation with the Office of Child Support?

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

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

- (1) Claimant was an ongoing recipient of Family Independence Program (FIP) benefits.
- (2) On July 6, 2012, the [REDACTED] sent a First Customer Contact Letter (OCS0015) to Claimant requiring her to contact them.
- (3) On August 22, 2012, the Office of Child Support sent a Final Customer Contact Letter (OCS0026) to Claimant requiring her to contact them.
- (4) On October 12, 2012, the Office of Child Support sent a Non-Cooperation Notice (OCS1252A) to Claimant. Claimant was also sent a Notice of Case Action (DHS-1605) which stated her Family Independence Program (FIP) would end November 1, 2012.

- (5) On November 9, 2012, Claimant submitted a request for hearing.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The Family Independence Program (FIP) was established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Public Law 104-193, 8 USC 601, *et seq.* The Department of Human Services (DHS or department) administers the FIP program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and MAC R 400.3101-3131. The FIP program replaced the Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) program effective October 1, 1996. Department policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Program Reference Manual (PRM).

During this hearing Claimant testified that the address where all the Departments correspondence was sent to was the address she gave to the Department. Claimant testified the address was her mother's home and that her mother had moved from there on August 1, 2012. Claimant also testified that she did not change her address with the Department until submitting this request for hearing.

Claimant did not raise any valid or good cause reasons for her failure to contact the Office of Child Support. A detailed analysis of the evidence presented, applicable Department policies, and reasoning for the decision are contained in the recorded record. During the hearing Claimant was informed of the decision and the reasoning behind the decision.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides the Department of Human Services properly closed Claimant's Family Independence Program (FIP) on November 1, 2012 for non-cooperation with the Office of Child Support.

It is ORDERED that the actions of the Department of Human Services, in this matter, are UPHeld.

/s/  
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Gary F. Heisler  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Maura D. Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 4/29/13

Date Mailed: 4/30/13

**NOTICE:** Administrative Hearings 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. Administrative Hearings 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 mailing 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

GFH/tb

cc:

