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

### IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No.: 2013-44299 Issue No.: 2006; 4003 Case No.:

Hearing Date: June 27, 2013 County: Wayne (76)

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 27, 2013, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included Claimant and Claimant's son, Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included MCW, ES.

# <u>ISSUE</u>

Did the Department properly deny Claimant's application for Medical Assistance (MA) and State Disability Assistance (SDA)?

### 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 MA and SDA in April of 2012.
- 2. On February 27, 2013, the Department denied Claimant's MA application due to failure to provide verification.
- 3. On February 27, 2013, the Department sent Claimant notice of the closure.
- 4. On April 25, 2013, Claimant filed a hearing request, protesting the denial.

## **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 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 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, Rule 400.3151 through Rule 400.3180.

In the present case, on February 27, 2013, the Department denied Claimant's MA and SDA application due to Claimant failing to provide verification. (See Notice of Case Action, Exhibit 2.) However, the Department presented at the hearing only the first page of a Medical Determination Verification Checklist (VCL) dated July 2, 2012. (Exhibit 1) The Department worker who issued the VCL was not present at the hearing to detail whether a complete VCL was issued to Claimant, and Claimant testified credibly that she did not receive the VCL. I am not persuaded that the Department was correct in denying Claimant's case for failing to cooperate in providing verification, as very limited documentary evidence was presented at the hearing and that evidence was not substantiated by the Department. I therefore do not find that Claimant failed to cooperate. See 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 improperly denied Claimant's application for MA and SDA.

# **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 MA and SDA decision is REVERSED for the reasons stated on the record.

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

- 1. Initiate reinstatement and reprocessing of Claimant's April of 2012 application for MA and SDA.
- 2. Notify Claimant in writing of the Department's determination regarding eligibility.

3. Issue SDA supplements for any missed payment, in accordance with Department policy.

Susan C. Burke
Administrative Law Judge
for Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: July 9, 2013
Date Mailed: July 10, 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 mailing 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

