

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 201353831
Issue No.: 1000; 3000
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: July 23, 2013
County: Macomb 12

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Susanne E. Harris

SETTLEMENT ORDER

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 July 23, 2013, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included [REDACTED]. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included Eligibility Specialist, [REDACTED].

ISSUE

Whether the Department properly:

- delayed acting on Claimant's application for benefits
- closed Claimant's case for benefits
- reduced Claimant's benefits for:
 - Family Independence Program Direct Support Services (FIP/DSS)?
 - Food Assistance Program (FAP)?
 - Medical Assistance (MA)?
 - Adult Medical Assistance (AMP)?
 - Child Development and Care (CDC)?
 - State Emergency Services (SER)?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. On July 23, 2013, the Department was delaying acting on:

- Claimant's application for benefits filed April 29, 2013
- closed Claimant's case for benefits
- reduced Claimant's benefits under the following program(s):
 - FIP/DSS
 - FAP
 - MA
 - AMP
 - SDA
 - CDC
 - SER.

2. On June 20, 2013, Claimant filed a request for hearing concerning the Department's action.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Department policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM), the Reference Tables Manual (RFT), and the State Emergency Relief Manual (ERM).

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 1999 AC, Rule 400.3101 through Rule 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 1999 AC, Rule 400.3001 through Rule 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, Rule 400.3151 through Rule 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 1999 AC, Rule 400.5001 through Rule 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).

The regulations governing the hearing and appeal process for applicants and recipients of public assistance in Michigan are found in the Michigan Administrative Code, 1999 AC, R 400.901 through Rule 400.951. An opportunity for a hearing shall be granted to an applicant who requests a hearing because a claim for assistance is denied or is not acted upon with reasonable promptness, and to any recipient who is aggrieved by a Department action resulting in suspension, reduction, discontinuance, or termination of assistance. Rule 400.903(1). As the Claimant concedes that she had her opportunity for a hearing on the FAP issue with Administrative Law Judge [REDACTED] and she prevailed at that hearing, this issue must be dismissed for lack of jurisdiction.

The ES at the hearing testified that attempts have been made to supplement the Claimant for FAP as per the Hearing Decision of Administrative Law Judge [REDACTED] issued on [REDACTED]. The ES testified that the Bridges computer system was not accepting the new verification that the Claimant had submitted as part of the redetermination process Administrative Law Judge [REDACTED] ordered and as such, this computer glitch was also delaying the processing of the Claimant's application for DSS services for her [REDACTED].

The law provides that disposition may be made of a contested case by stipulation or agreed settlement. MCL 24.278(2).

In the present case, Claimant requested a hearing to dispute the Department's action. Soon after commencement of the hearing, the parties testified that they had reached a settlement concerning the disputed action. Consequently, the Department agreed to do the following: Initiate action to process the Claimant's application for DSS services expeditiously, including referring the matter for a help desk ticket.

As a result of this settlement, Claimant no longer wishes to proceed with the hearing. As such, it is unnecessary for this Administrative Law Judge to render a decision regarding the facts and issues in this case.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge concludes that the Department and Claimant have come to a settlement regarding Claimant's request for a hearing.

THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

1. Initiate action to process the Claimant's application for DSS services expeditiously, including referring the matter for a help-desk ticket.

2. The help desk ticket is to be expedited.

/s/
Susanne E. Harris
Administrative Law Judge
for Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 7/24/13

Date Mailed: 7/24/13

NOTICE: 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.

SEH/tb

cc:

