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

IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No.:20Issue No.:20Case No.:20Hearing Date:0County:W

2013-65962 2006

October 28, 2013 Wayne (82-19)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Michael J. Bennane

HEARING DECISION

Following Claimant's request for a hearing, this matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and 400.37; 7 CFR 273.15 to 273.18; 42 CFR 431.200 to 431.250; 45 CFR 99.1 to 99.33; and 45 CFR 205.10. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on October 28, 2013, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included Claimant

Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included

ISSUE

Did the Department properly \Box deny Claimant's application \boxtimes close Claimant's case 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)?
- Direct Support Services (DSS)?
- State SSI Payments (SSP)?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

- Claimant □ applied for ⊠ received:
 □ FIP □ FAP ⊠ MA □ AMP □ SDA □ CDC □ DSS □ SSP benefits.
- On September 1, 2013, the Department

 denied Claimant's application
 closed Claimant's case due to claimant's failure to provide documentation.

- 3. On August 12, 2013, the Department sent Claimant/Claimant's Authorized Representative (AR) its decision.
- 4. On August 30, 2013, Claimant/Claimant's Authorized Hearing Representative (AHR) filed a hearing request, protesting the Department's actions.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Department policies are contained in the Department of Human Services Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), Department of Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM), and Department of Human Services Reference Tables Manual (RFT).

The Medical Assistance (MA) program is established by the Title XIX of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1396-1396w-5, and is implemented by 42 CFR 400.200 to 1008.59. The Department of Human Services (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the MA program pursuant to MCL 400.10 and MCL 400.105.

Additionally, at the hearing, the Department presented multiple copies of the Department's requested forms all sent by Claimant via facsimile on various dates.

The Department and Claimant agree that numerous conversations or attempts to have same took place. Claimant testified that their physician was ill and unable to complete the necessary forms and that they had relayed this information to the Department. This fact was admitted by the Department.

This Administrative Law Judge finds that Claimant made numerous attempts to provide the documentation requested by the Department, but was thwarted in those attempts by circumstances beyond his control.

In addition, it appears from the record that Claimant not only provided much of the information in a timely manner, but he also kept in contact with the Department when it became apparent that information the Claimant assumed was successfully sent to the Department via facsimile was either not received or not forwarded to the Department's caseworker.

This Administrative Law Judge finds that the Department should have used the information available and provided by Claimant in a timely manner. BAM 130 (July 2013).

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated on the record, if any, finds that the Department

- acted in accordance with Department policy when it
- ⊠ did not act in accordance with Department policy when it closed Claimant's MA case September 1, 2013.

failed to satisfy its burden of showing that it acted in accordance with Department policy when it

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is

 \square AFFIRMED. \boxtimes REVERSED.

AFFIRMED IN PART with respect to to

and REVERSED IN PART with respect

- THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO BEGIN DOING THE FOLLOWING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENT POLICY AND CONSISTENT WITH THIS HEARING DECISION, WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE DATE OF MAILING OF THIS DECISION AND ORDER:
- 1. Reinstate Claimant's MA retroactively back to the closure date of September 1, 2013, and supplement for any benefits not covered.

Michael J. Bennane Administrative Law Judge for Maura Corrigan, Director Department of Human Services

Date Signed: October 30, 2013

Date Mailed: October 30, 2013

NOTICE OF APPEAL: 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 or Reconsideration was made, within 30 days of the receipt date of the Decision and Order of Reconsideration or Rehearing Decision.

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).

A Request for Rehearing or Reconsideration may be granted when one of the following exists:

- Newly discovered evidence that existed at the time of the original hearing that could affect the outcome of the original hearing decision;
- Misapplication of manual policy or law in the hearing decision which led to a wrong conclusion;
- Typographical, mathematical or other obvious error in the hearing decision that affects the rights of the client;
- Failure of the ALJ to address in the hearing decision relevant issues raised in the hearing request.

The Department, AHR or the claimant must specify all reasons for the request. MAHS will not review any response to a request for rehearing/reconsideration. A request must be *received* in MAHS within 30 days of the date the hearing decision is mailed.

The written request must be faxed to (517) 335-6088 and be labeled as follows:

Attention: MAHS Rehearing/Reconsideration Request

If submitted by mail, the written request must be addressed as follows:

Michigan Administrative Hearings Reconsideration/Rehearing Request P.O. Box 30639 Lansing, Michigan 48909-07322

MJB/pf

