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

#### IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No.: 2014-2494 Issue No.: Case No.: Hearing Date: County: Marquette

2003: 3003 December 3, 2013

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Carmen G. Fahie

# **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 Tuesday, December 3, 2013, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included the Claimant. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included Rob Mattia, FIM, and Carrie Zelezznik, FIS.

# ISSUE

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

Family Independence Program (FIP)? State Disability Assistance (SDA)? Food Assistance Program (FAP)? Medical Assistance (MA)?

- Adult Medical Assistance (AMP)?
- 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  $\bowtie$  received: 1. 🖾 FAP FIP  $\bowtie$  MA SDA benefits.
- On September 18, 2013 and September 20, 2013, the Department 2. denied Claimant's application 🛛 🖾 closed Claimant's case  $\boxtimes$  reduce Claimant's case

due to the Claimant's youngest child is not expected to graduate by the time he is 20 and due to changes in federal FAP annual standards.

- 3. On September 18, 2013, and September 20, 2013, the Department sent Claimant/Claimant's Authorized Representative (AR) its decision.
- 4. On September 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 Family Independence Program (FIP) was established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, PL 104-193, and 42 USC 601 to 679c. The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers FIP pursuant to MCL 400.10 and 400.57a and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3101 to .3131.

The Food Assistance Program (FAP) [formerly known as the Food Stamp program] is established by the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, 7 USC 2011 to 2036a and is implemented by the federal regulations contained in 7 CFR 271.1 to 285.5. The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10 and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001 to .3015.

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.

The Adult Medical Program (AMP) is established by 42 USC 1315 and is administered by the Department pursuant to MCL 400.10.

The State Disability Assistance (SDA) program is established by the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b. The Department of Human Services (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the SDA program pursuant to MCL 400.10 and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3151-.3180.

☐ The Child Development and Care (CDC) program is established by Titles IVA, IVE and XX of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 601-619, 670-679c, and 1397-1397m-5; the Child Care and Development Block Grant of 1990, PL 101-508, 42 USC 9858 to 9858q; and the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, PL 104-193. The program is implemented by 45 CFR 98.1-99.33. The Department

administers the program pursuant to MCL 400.10 and provides services to adults and children pursuant to MCL 400.14(1) and Mich Admin Code, R 400.5001-.5020.

Direct Support Services (DSS) is established by the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b. The program is administered by the Department pursuant to MCL 400.10 and 400.57a and Mich Admin Code R 400.3603.

☐ The State SSI Payments (SSP) program is established by 20 CFR 416.2001-.2099 and the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1382e. The Department administers the program pursuant to MCL 400.10.

Additionally, the Claimant was due for a redetermination in September 2013, which was returned on August 30, 2013. Department Exhibit 4-7. On March 18, 2013, the Department Caseworker received a Verification of Student Information, DHS 3380, for the Claimant's son, who was 19 years of age on January 18, 2013, but was not expected to graduate until June 2020. Department Exhibit 8-9. On September 20, 2013, the Department Caseworker sent the Claimant a notice because the Claimant's son was not expected by the age of 20, that he was no longer eligible for MA. Department Exhibit 11-16.

Additionally, the Claimant had a decrease in FAP benefits due to changes in Federal FAP annual standards. The utility standard was decreased from \$575 to \$553. In addition, the economic recovery amount standard was deleted to \$0 from \$44. As a result, the Claimant had a decrease in his FAP benefits from **Department** Department Exhibit a-I. BEM 110 and 240.

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 closed the Claimant's MA case because his youngest child was not expected to graduate by age 20 and reduced the Claimant's FAP benefits due to changes in Federal FAP annual standards.

# **DECISION AND ORDER**

Accordingly, the Department's decision is

AFFIRMED.

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**Carmen G. Fahie** Administrative Law Judge for Maura Corrigan, Director Department of Human Services

Date Signed: <u>12/11/2013</u>

Date Mailed: <u>12/12/2013</u>

**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

CGF/pw

CC:

