

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**



Reg. No.: 201351648  
Issue No.: 1038, 2006  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: July 3, 2013  
County: Wayne County (#15)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: MICHELLE HOWIE**

**HEARING DECISION**

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and MCL 400.37 following Claimant's June 6, 2013 request for a hearing. After due notice, a telephone hearing was conducted on Wednesday, July 3, 2013, from Detroit, Michigan. The Claimant appeared and testified. Participants on behalf of Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED] (Eligibility Specialist) and [REDACTED] (Eligibility Specialist).

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly  deny Claimant's Family Independence Program (FIP) application; and  close Claimant's case for  Medical Assistance (MA)?

**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 benefits and  received benefits for:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Family Independence Program (FIP). | <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Medical Assistance (AMP).    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food Assistance Program (FAP).                | <input type="checkbox"/> State Disability Assistance (SDA). |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical Assistance (MA).           | <input type="checkbox"/> Child Development and Care (CDC).  |

2. On March 12, 2013, the Department  denied Claimant's application for FIP; and  closed Claimant's MA case due to Claimant allegedly not attending PATH program; and finding no group member is an eligible child.
3. On March 12, 2013 the Department sent  Claimant notice of the  denial and  closure.
4. On June 6, 2013, Claimant filed a hearing request, protesting the  denial of the FIP application and  closure of the MA case.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

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

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, R 400.3101 through Rule 400.3131. FIP replaced the Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) program effective October 1, 1996.

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.

In this case, the evidence is insufficient to support a finding that the Department acted in accordance with policy with regards to the action taken in this matter. The Department representative testified that he had no knowledge of what occurred, or the reason for the actions. Nothing was presented on record regarding Claimant's alleged failure to attend the PATH program or why Claimant was found not to be the primary caretaker of her child. Claimant testified credibly that she was not notified of the denial or case closure and was unable to speak to anyone at the Department regarding the action taken for several weeks, which prompted her to file a hearing request. In such case, the Department has the burden of establishing by a preponderance of the evidence that it acted properly in any action that negatively affects a client. On this record, the Department did not meet its burden.

Accordingly, the Department actions regarding the FIP and MA benefits are not UPHOLD.

**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 establish it acted properly when it denied Claimant's FIP application and closed the MA case effective April 1, 2013.

Accordingly, the Department's  AMP  FIP  FAP  MA  SDA  CDC determination is hereby,  **REVERSED**.

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

1. The Department shall reinstate Claimant's MA case to the date of closure in accordance with policy.
2. The Department shall reinstate Claimant's application for FIP benefits and process in accordance with policy.
3. The Department shall notify Claimant in writing of the action taken with regards to the MA and FIP benefits.

*M. Howie*

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**Michelle Howie**  
Administrative Law Judge  
For Maura Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 7/12/2013

Date Mailed: 7/12/2013

**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 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

MH/hw

cc:

