

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

██████████
████████████████████
████████████████████

Reg. No.: 2013 52012
Issue No.: 3002, 3003
Case No.: ██████████
Hearing Date: July 10, 2013
County: Oakland (03)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Lynn M. Ferris

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 July 10, 2013, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included the Claimant and her spouse, ██████████, who appeared as a witness. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included ██████████ FIS.

ISSUE

Due to excess income, did the Department properly ☐ deny the Claimant's application ☒ close Claimant's case ☐ reduce and properly calculate Claimant's benefits for:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Family Independence Program (FIP)? | ☐ Adult Medical Assistance (AMP)? |
| ☒ Food Assistance Program (FAP)? | ☐ State Disability Assistance (SDA)? |
| ☐ Medical Assistance (MA)? | ☐ Child Development and Care (CDC)? |

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 for: ☒ received benefits for:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Family Independence Program (FIP). | ☐ Adult Medical Assistance (AMP). |
| ☒ Food Assistance Program (FAP). | ☐ State Disability Assistance (SDA). |
| ☐ Medical Assistance (MA). | ☐ Child Development and Care (CDC). |

2. On June 1, 2013, the Department ☐ denied Claimant's application
☒ closed Claimant's case due to excess income.
3. On May 17, 2013, the Department sent
☒ Claimant ☐ Claimant's Authorized Representative (AR)
notice of the ☐ denial. ☒ closure. ☐ reduction.
4. On May 29, 2013, Claimant or Claimant's AHR filed a hearing request, protesting the
☐ denial of the application. ☒ closure of the case. ☐ reduction of benefits.

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 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.

Additionally, in this case the FAP budget in question was thoroughly reviewed on the record. The Claimant was disputing whether the FAP case was properly closed due to excess net income. The amount of the gross income as calculated by the Department was based upon an employment verification from Claimant's employer which indicated the Claimant earned \$14 per hour and worked 30 hours weekly. Also confirmed by Claimant was the amount of her spouse's SSI in the amount of \$710 and the quarterly supplement of \$14 and the E FIP amount of \$10, for a total of \$734. Based upon the Claimant's confirmation, the gross income amount of \$2,540 as calculated by the Department is correct. Exhibits 5 and 6

In addition, the excess shelter calculation was reviewed and the rent amount of \$715, though incorrect, worked to the Claimant's benefit as it was higher than the actual rent of \$680. Exhibit 1. The utility allowance of \$575 as well as 1/2 of the adjusted gross income was correctly calculated. Exhibit 7. Even though the incorrect rent amount was used, the error was harmless error and does not change the outcome of the FAP closure due to net income receiving the net income limit. The FAP budget as calculated by the Department for May, 2013 are correct and caused the closure of the Claimant's FAP case because the net income amount of \$1,755 exceeded the net income limit of \$1,591. RFT 260.

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, due to excess income, the Department ☒ properly ☐ improperly

- ☐ denied Claimant's application
- ☐ reduced and calculated the Claimant's benefits
- ☒ closed Claimant's case

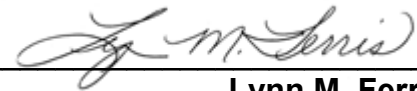
for: ☐ AMP ☐ FIP ☒ FAP ☐ MA ☐ SDA ☐ CDC.

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 act properly ☐ did not act properly.

Accordingly, the Department's ☐ AMP ☐ FIP ☒ FAP ☐ MA ☐ SDA ☐ CDC decision is ☒ AFFIRMED ☐ REVERSED for the reasons stated on the record.



Lynn M. Ferris

Administrative Law Judge
for Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: July 16, 2013

Date Mailed: July 16, 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 affect the substantial rights of the claimant,
 - failure of the ALJ to address other relevant issues in the hearing decision.

2013-52012/LMF

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

LMF/cl

cc:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]