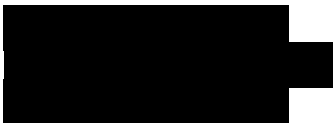


STATE OF MICHIGAN  
MICHIGAN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING SYSTEM  
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

**IN THE MATTER OF:**



Reg. No.: 2013-7818  
Issue No.: 1038  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: January 9, 2013  
County: Wayne (15)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Jan Leventer

**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 January 9, 2013, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included the Claimant. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED], Potential Assistance Task Program (PATH (sic)) Worker.

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly  deny Claimant's application  close Claimant's case 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 type="checkbox"/> Medical Assistance (MA)?                      | <input type="checkbox"/> 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  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 type="checkbox"/> Medical Assistance (MA).                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Child Development and Care (CDC).  |

2. On August 1, 2012, the Department  
 denied Claimant's application     closed Claimant's case  
due to a determination that she failed to participate in the Work First program, which  
is a requirement for receiving FIP benefits.
3. On September 17, 2012, the Department sent  
 Claimant     Claimant's Authorized Representative (AR)  
notice of the     denial.     closure.
4. On October 18, 2012, Claimant filed a hearing request, protesting the  
 denial of the application.     closure of the case.

### **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 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.

Additionally, the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are entered in this case. On August 23, 2012, the Department sent Claimant a Work Participation Appointment Notice scheduling her to appear for orientation on Tuesday, September 4, 2012, at the Development Center, [REDACTED]

On Tuesday, September 4, 2012, Claimant appeared at the Development Center and found that it was closed. Claimant waited two hours at the Center, but no one appeared. Claimant next went to the Department for help, and waited six hours in the reception area.

Claimant's Specialist was not in on September 4, 2012. Claimant was told by another employee that she was sent to the wrong address for the Work First program, and that she would be sent a new appointment notice.

On September 17, 2012, the Department issued an admittedly erroneous Notice of Case Action stating she was ineligible for FIP benefits because her daughter, [REDACTED], was ineligible. The Notice contained no reference to the Work First program.

Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM) 105, "Rights and Responsibilities," requires the Department to protect client rights and determine eligibility. In this case it is found and determined that the Department failed to protect client rights and determine eligibility.

Department of Human Services Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM) 105 (2012). p. 1. First, the Department issued a Work Participation Appointment Notice to the wrong location. Second, when Claimant asked the Department for help, she was given incorrect information that she would be rescheduled for another appointment. Third, the Department issued an erroneous Notice of Case Action which failed to identify the reason for the termination of her benefits.

Based on BAM 105 and all of the evidence in this case, it is found and determined that the Department failed to fulfill its responsibilities pursuant to BAM 105, and its action shall be reversed. It is found and determined that the administrative procedures that were used in this case failed to protect Claimant's rights to benefits.

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 the Department

properly denied Claimant's application       improperly denied Claimant's application  
 properly closed Claimant's case               improperly 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.

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

1. Reinstate Claimant's FIP benefits.
2. Initiate procedures to reschedule Claimant for an appointment for the Work First program.
3. Initiate procedures to provide retroactive and ongoing FIP benefits to Claimant at the benefit level to which she is entitled.
4. Initiate procedures to delete any sanctions and penalties imposed on Claimant as a result of the Department's actions.

5. All steps shall be taken in accordance with Department policy and procedure.



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

Date Signed: January 9, 2013

Date Mailed: January 10, 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

JL/tm

cc:

