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

IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No.: Issue No(s).: Case No.: Hearing Date: County:

2014-2545 2007

December 16, 2013 Oakland #03

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Michael S. Newell

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 December 16, 2013, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included to the Department of Human Services (Department) included Mary Jo Bagley, Eligibility Specialist.

<u>ISSUE</u>

Did the Department properly determined Claimant's MA deductible for July 2013?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

- 1. On September 19, 2013, Claimant applied for Medicaid benefits, for retroactive coverage for bills from July 25, 2013.
- 2. Claimant provided the requested income and assets.
- 3. The Department processed the case on September 23, 2013, and issued a Notice of Case Action (Notice) on that date indicating that Claimant's deductible or "spend down" was \$1841.00 for July.
- 4. Claimant's husband owns and operates a sole-proprietorship business, which is the family's sole source of income.
- 5. The Department made the following determinations regarding the MA budget:

- a. Spouse's prorated income:
- b. Spouses share of spouses own income:
- c. Protected income:
- d. Deductible . (See Exhibit 9)
- 6. The Worker who testified during the hearing did not know how the Department arrived at either the "Spouses prorated income" or "Spouses share of spouses own income" because she did not calculate the MA budget.
- 7. The Department issued a Verification Checklist on September 23, 2013, due October 3, 2013.
- 8. Claimant timely complied with the Verification Checklist.
- 9. The Department did not provide all relevant documents that Claimant provided to the Department relevant to the Department's requests, and the MA budget, and the Department did not dispute this allegation.
- 10. For the month of July, Mr. Toro's business reported to the Department that it had **sectors** in sales and **sectors** in expenses (See Exhibit 6).
- 11. The reported expenses included in "entertainment expenses." (Exhibit 6).
- 12. Claimant submitted a hearing request on October 3, 2013.

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), Department of Human Services Reference Tables Manual (RFT), and Department of Human Services Emergency Relief Manual (ERM).

☐ 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.

The State Emergency Relief (SER) program is established by the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b. The SER program is administered by the Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) pursuant to MCL 400.10 and by Mich Admin Code, R 400.7001 through R 400.7049.

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 Department did not meet its burden of proof regarding the relevant MA Budget. The protected income amount of is correct, but the preponderance of the evidence that does not support a finding that the Department property determined the income amount at issue. It is unclear how the Department arrived at the figures used or why some business expenses were presumably deemed appropriate and others were not. The expenses listed on Exhibit 6 appear consistent with allowable expenses under BEM 502, pages 3-5, although the listed in entertainment expenses is not allowable expenses under policy.

The countable income from Mr. Toro's business for the relevant period is Thus Claimant's deductible for July 2013 is

Claimant also testified that the Department did not include all medical bills when it determined that her July medical bills totaled **Exercise**. Claimant did not present these bills for the hearing and should present them to the Department, together with any information indicating that when the services were incurred.

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

S failed to satisfy its burden of showing that it acted in accordance with Department policy when it determined Claimant's MA deductible.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is

\boxtimes REVERSED.

1. Redetermine Claimant's MA deductible consistent with this opinion.

Michael & Newell

Michael S. Newell Administrative Law Judge for Maura Corrigan, Director Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 01/08/2014

Date Mailed: 01/08/2014

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

MSN/pw

