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

### IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No.: 2014-550 Issue No.: 2009; 4009

Case No.:

Hearing Date: February 12, 2014

County: Wayne (17)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Susan C. Burke

# **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; 42 CFR 431.200 to 431.250; and 45 CFR 205.10. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on February 12, 2014, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included Claimant and Mel Kendrick. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included Medical Contact Worker.

# **ISSUE**

Whether the Department properly determined that Claimant was not disabled for purposes of the Medical Assistance (MA) and State Disability Assistance (SDA) benefit programs.

### FINDINGS OF FACT

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

- On May 27, 2011, Claimant filed a Title II application for a period of disability and disability insurance benefits. Claimant also filed a Title XVI application for supplemental security income (SSI) on March 16, 2011.
- 2. Claimant submitted an application for public assistance seeking MA and SDA benefits on July 23, 2013
- 3. On August 23, 2013, the Medical Review Team (MRT) determined that Claimant was not disabled.

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- 4. The Department notified Claimant of the MRT determination on September 14, 2013.
- 5. On October 18, 2013, the Department received Claimant's written request for hearing.
- 6. On November 1, 2013, the State Hearing Review Team found Claimant not disabled.
- 7. On November 27, 2013, SSA found Claimant not disabled.
- 8. Claimant did not appeal the SSA determination.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The Medical Assistance program is established by Subchapter XIX of Chapter 7 of The Public Health & Welfare Act, 42 USC 1397, and is administered by the Department of Human Services, formerly known as the Family Independence Agency, pursuant to MCL 400.10 *et seq.* and MCL 400.105. Department policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual ("BAM"), the Bridges Eligibility Manual ("BEM"), and the Bridges Reference Tables ("RFT").

A person is considered disabled for purposes of SDA if the person has a physical or mental impairment which meets federal SSI disability standards for at least 90 days. Receipt of SSI or RSDI benefits based upon disability or blindness or the receipt of MA benefits based upon disability or blindness (MA-P) automatically qualifies an individual as disabled for purposes of the SDA program. Other specific financial and non-financial eligibility criteria are found in BEM Item 261. Inasmuch as Claimant has been found "disabled" for purposes of MA, she must also be found "disabled" for purposes of SDA benefits.

The disability stand for disability-related MA and SSI is the same. BEM 260; BEM 271 When the SSA determines that a client is not disabled/blind for SSI purposes, the client may appeal that determination at SSA. BEM 260 The SSA appeals process consists of three steps:

- 1. Reconsideration
- 2. Hearing
- 3. Appeals Council

*Id.* The client has 60 days from the date he receives a denial notice to appeal an SSA action. BEM 260 An SSA determination becomes final when no further appeals may be made at SSA. *Id.* 

In the present case, the SSA found Claimant not disabled on November 27, 2013 for an SSI application of May 27, 2011. Claimant has not alleged a totally different disabling condition than the condition SSA based its determination on, or an additional impairment(s) or change or deterioration in her condition upon which SSA has not made a determination. (See BEM 260.) The SSA determination was for the same time period and impairment(s) at issue and the denial was not appealed within 60 days. Because the SSA decision was not appealed, it became binding on Claimant's MA application.

A person is considered disabled for purposes of SDA if the person has a physical or mental impairment which meets federal SSI disability standards for at least 90 days. Receipt of SSI or RSDI benefits based upon disability or blindness or the receipt of MA benefits based upon disability or blindness (MA-P) automatically qualifies an individual as disabled for purposes of the SDA program. In light of the date of Claimant's SDA application of July 23, 2013, and in light of the SSA's determination covering the same time period, it is found that Claimant is not disabled for purposes of the SDA program.

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 Claimant not disabled for purposes of the MA and SDA benefit programs.

# **DECISION AND ORDER**

Accordingly, the Department's determination is AFFIRMED with respect to MA and SDA.

Susan C. Burke
Administrative Law Judge
r Maura Corrigan, Director

For Maura Corrigan, Director Department of Human Services

Jusa C. Bruke

Date Signed: February 20, 2014

Date Mailed: February 24, 2014

**NOTICE OF APPEAL:** 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

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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 or Reconsideration was made, within 30 days of the receipt date of the Decision and Order of Reconsideration or Rehearing Decision.

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

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