

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 201432149
Issue No.: 2001, 3001
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: April 10, 2014
County: Oakland County DHS #4

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Kevin Scully

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 April 10, 2014, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED].

ISSUE

Whether the Department of Human Services (Department) properly determined the Claimant's eligibility for the Medicare Savings Program and the Food Assistance Program (FAP)?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. The Claimant was an ongoing Medicare Savings Program and Food Assistance Program (FAP) recipient.
2. On February 28, 2014, the Department notified the Claimant that it would terminate her Medicare Savings Program benefits and Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits.
3. The Department received the Claimant's request for a hearing on March 7, 2014, protesting the termination of Medicare Savings Program and Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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 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 Claimant was an ongoing Medicare Savings Program and Food Assistance Program (FAP) recipient. On February 28, 2014, the Department notified the Claimant that it would terminate her Medicare Savings Program and Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits.

The Department's representative testified that Medicare Savings Program benefits were being terminated due to excess income, and that Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits were being terminated for failure to provide the Department with information necessary to determine her eligibility to receive benefits.

The Department failed to provide any budgets supporting its determinations. This Administrative Law Judge finds that the Department failed to provide sufficient evidence to support a finding that the Claimant's income exceeds the limit to participate in the Medicare Savings Program.

The Department failed to provide documentation showing what verification documents were requested or what was not provided in a timely manner. The Department failed to establish that shelter expenses were not verified in a timely manner, or that shelter expenses were properly applied to the Claimant's eligibility to receive Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits.

This Administrative Law Judge finds that the Department failed to establish that it properly closed the Claimant's Medicare Savings Program and Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits.

DECISION AND ORDER

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 failed to satisfy its burden of showing that it acted in accordance with Department policy when it terminated the Claimant's Medicare Savings Program and Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits.

Accordingly, the Department's decision is **REVERSED**.

THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO BEGIN DOING THE FOLLOWING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENT POLICY AND CONSISTENT WITH THIS HEARING DECISION, WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE DATE OF MAILING OF THIS DECISION AND ORDER:

1. Initiate a determination of the Claimant's eligibility for the Medical Assistance (MA) and Food Assistance Program (FAP) as of March 1, 2014.
2. Provide the Claimant with a Notice of Case Action (DHS-1605) describing the Department's revised eligibility determination.
3. Issue the Claimant any retroactive benefits she may be eligible to receive, if any.



Kevin Scully
Administrative Law Judge
for Maura D. Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: April 15, 2014

Date Mailed: April 15, 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.

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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

KS/hj

cc:

