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

#### IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No.: 14-004575 Issue No.: 2007; 3008 Case No.:

Hearing Date: July 17, 2014

County: WAYNE-DISTRICT 19 (INKSTER)

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; 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 July 17, 2014, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included Claimant. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included Eligibility Specialist, and Family Independence Manager.

# **ISSUES**

Did the Department properly calculate Claimant's Food Assistance Program (FAP) allotment?

Did the Department properly determine Claimant's Medical Assistance (MA) premium status?

## FINDINGS OF FACT

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

- Claimant received FAP benefits in the amount of \$15.00.
- 2. On second of Claimant filed a hearing request, protesting the amount of FAP benefits and the action the Department took regarding Claimant's MA premium.
- 3. During the hearing, the Department did not present sufficient documentation regarding medical expenses.

### **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 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 Title XIX of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1396-1396w-5; 42 USC 1315; the Affordable Care Act of 2010, the collective term for the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Pub. L. No. 111-148, as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, Pub. L. No. 111-152; and 42 CFR 430.10-.25. The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the MA program pursuant to 42 CFR 435, MCL 400.10, and MCL 400.105-.112k. Department policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual ("BAM"), the Bridges Eligibility Manual ("BEM"), and the Bridges Reference Tables ("RFT").

Additionally, BEM 550 instructs that eighty percent of the earned income of a household be added to unearned income to determine gross income. Adjusted gross income in a household determined by subtracting the standard amount. (RFT 255). Monthly net income for FAP purposes is then determined by subtracting allowable expenses, such as a shelter deduction, if any, and medical expenses if any. BEM 554.

In the present case, the Department representative testified that the Department issued a letter to Claimant regarding her MA premium on However, the Department did not present the letter, or a budget regarding MA, for examination. Without examination of such documents, it cannot be concluded that the Department was correct regarding its action relating to Claimant's MA premium. In addition, if in fact the Department is no longer paying Claimant's MA premium, the Department should recalculate Claimant's FAP budget to determine if Claimant qualifies for a medical expense.

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 calculated Claimant's FAP allotment and when it took action with regard to Claimant's MA premium.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

Accordingly, the Department's FAP calculation 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. Recalculate Claimant's FAP allotment, effective

- 2. Issue FAP supplements for any missed or increased payment.
- 3. Review Claimant's MA status with regard to the MA premium, effective and notify Claimant in writing of the status.

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

Jusa C. Bruke

Date Signed: 7/24/2014

Date Mailed: 7/24/2014

SCB / hw

**NOTICE OF APPEAL:** A party may appeal this Hearing Decision in the circuit court in the county in which he/she resides, or the circuit court in Ingham County, within 30 days of the receipt date.

A party may request a rehearing or reconsideration of this Hearing Decision from the Michigan Administrative Hearing System (MAHS) within 30 days of the mailing date of this Hearing Decision, or MAHS may order a rehearing or reconsideration on its own motion.

MAHS may grant a party's Request for Rehearing or Reconsideration 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 party requesting a rehearing or reconsideration 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 this Hearing Decision is mailed.

A written request may be faxed or mailed to MAHS. If submitted by fax, 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

