

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

IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No.: 14-018400
Issue No.: 2000, 3008
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: January 22, 2015
County: OAKLAND-DISTRICT 4

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Gary Heisler

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 January 22, 2015, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included herself and [REDACTED] her care giver. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included ES [REDACTED]. During this hearing it was determined there is no jurisdiction to review the Medicare Cost Share repayments from 2013 and early 2014 which were part of this hearing request. The Medical Assistance portion of the hearing request is dismissed.

ISSUE

Did the Department determine the proper amount of Claimant's Food Assistance Program eligibility on November 15, 2014?

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 was an ongoing recipient of Food Assistance Program benefits.
2. On November 15, 2014, Claimant was sent a Notice of Case Action (DHS-1605) which stated her Food Assistance Program benefits would be reduced to \$ [REDACTED] beginning December 1, 2014.
3. On December 1, 2014, Claimant submitted a hearing request.
4. Subsequent to Claimant's hearing request, the Department updated Claimant's Food Assistance Program financial eligibility budget to include the non-heat electric standard expense. The additional expense did not change the dollar value

of Claimant Food Assistance Program eligibility. Claimant was not sent an updated Notice of Case Action (DHS-1605)

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 273. The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10, the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001 to .3015.

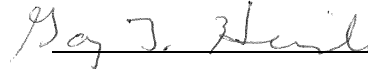
In this case, the change in law for utilities caused Claimant's Food Assistance Program to be reduced. Because there was a mistake in the November 15, 2014, Food Assistance Program eligibility computation, it was not appropriate to dismiss the hearing request. The updated Food Assistance Program financial eligibility budget was reviewed. Claimant's income and reported, allowed expenses were discussed. The updated net income was looked up in the FAP issuance tables. In addition, the issuance tables were reviewed and clearly showed that Claimant is positioned in the very wide range of incomes which are eligible for \$16. This Administrative Law Judge is completely confident that Claimant was eligible for no more or less than \$16 of Food Assistance Program benefits on November 15, 2014.

It is also noted that Claimant was made aware that because she is aged/disabled, she can report medical expenses which may be allowed in her Food Assistance Program financial eligibility budget.

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 determined the proper amount of Claimant's Food Assistance Program eligibility on November 15, 2014.

DECISION AND ORDER

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



Gary Heisler
Administrative Law Judge
for Nick Lyon, Interim Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: **1/27/2015**

Date Mailed: **1/27/2015**

GFH/hj

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 48909-8139

cc:

