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

#### IN THE MATTER OF:



Hearing Date: February 12, 2015

County: WAYNE- 49

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Robert J. Chavez** 

## **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 February 12, 2015, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included Participants. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included Family Independence Specialist.

# **ISSUE**

Did the Department properly close Claimant's Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits?

#### 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 FAP recipient.
- 2. Claimant was sent a DHS-1010, Redetermination on October 14, 2014.
- 3. Claimant did not complete the redetermination.
- 4. Claimant has not applied for assistance with a Medicare Part B premium.
- 5. Claimant's FAP benefits were closed on December 1, 2014.
- 6. On November 6, 2014, Claimant was sent notice that her FAP benefits would close on December 1, 2014 if the redetermination was not completed.
- 7. On December 15, 2014, Claimant requested a hearing.

## **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.

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.

Per policy found in BAM 210, failure to complete a redetermination can result in case closure. The Department sent Claimant redetermination forms; Claimant admitted to receiving these forms, and furthermore, to a failure to return these forms.

As such, the Department properly closed Claimant's FAP case, because Claimant failed to complete the redetermination.

Claimant also alleged that the Department was failing to pay Claimant's Medicare Part B premium; however, Claimant admitted to not filing an application for assistance with this expense. As such, the Department was correct to not pay the premium.

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 acted in accordance with Department policy when it closed Claimant's FAP case.

# **DECISION AND ORDER**

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

Robert J. Chavez

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

Date Signed: 3/2/2015

Date Mailed: 3/2/2015

RJC / tm

**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

