

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 15-004906  
Issue No.: 2001  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: May 21, 2015  
County: Roscommon

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Vicki Armstrong

**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; and Mich Admin Code, R 792.11002. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on May 21, 2015, from Lansing, Michigan. Claimant's granddaughter and power of attorney, [REDACTED] personally appeared and testified on behalf of Claimant. Participants on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) included Eligibility Specialist [REDACTED].

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly determine Claimant's eligibility for Medical Assistance (MA/Medicaid)?

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

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

1. On February 19, 2015, Claimant's power of attorney applied for Medicaid on behalf of Claimant.
2. On March 2, 2015, the Department mailed Claimant's power of attorney a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice informing her that Medicaid was denied for Claimant due to excess assets. The Notice explained the asset limit is \$ [REDACTED] and the State Equalized Value of the home was counted as an asset.
3. Claimant's power of attorney submitted a request for hearing on March 13, 2015, contesting the Department's negative action.

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Department policies are contained in the Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM), Department of Health and Human Services Reference

Tables Manual (RFT), and Department of Health and Human Services Emergency Relief Manual (ERM).

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 Department of Human Services) administers the MA program pursuant to 42 CFR 435, MCL 400.10, and MCL 400.105-.112k.

The goal of the Medicaid program is to ensure that essential health care services are made available to those who otherwise could not afford them. Medicaid is also known as Medical Assistance (MA).

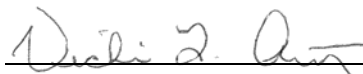
In this case, Claimant's home had been moved into what the Department determined to be a revocable trust, at which point the home was a countable asset and put Claimant in the over asset category.

Claimant's power of attorney explained how she contacted an attorney and as of May 15, 2015, the house was no longer in the trust. Claimant's power of attorney admitted her attorney had already explained that the Department would not be able to retroactively grant Medicaid for Claimant, but only from the date the house was removed from the trust. The Eligibility Specialist clarified that since Claimant's power of attorney had already reapplied for Medicaid, upon approval, Claimant would be receiving Medicaid beginning the month of May, 2015.

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 denied Claimant's application for Medicaid based on excess assets.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

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



**Vicki Armstrong**  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Nick Lyon, Director  
Department of Health and Human Services

Date Signed: **5/22/2015**

Date Mailed: **5/22/2015**

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**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 copy of the claim or application for appeal must be filed with the Michigan Administrative Hearing System (MAHS).

A party may request a rehearing or reconsideration of this Hearing Decision from 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:

