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

IN THE MATTER OF:

MAHS Reg. No.: 15-015621 Issue No.: 3001

Agency Case No.:

Hearing Date: October 12, 2015

County: Wayne (17-Greenfield/Joy)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Michael Bennane

HEARING DECISION

Following Petitioner'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 October 12, 2015, from Detroit, Michigan. The Petitioner was represented by Petitioner. The Department was represented by

<u>ISSUE</u>

Did the Department properly deny Petitioner's Food Assistance Program (FAP) application?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

- 1. Petitioner applied for FAP benefits.
- 2. On April 16, 2015, the Department sent Petitioner a verification checklist requesting documentation of Petitioner's employment/income due April 27, 2015.
- 3. On April 21, 2015, the Department sent Petitioner a verification of employment form requesting various information concerning employment and income in Petitioner's home.
- 4. On July 14, 2015, the Department sent Petitioner a notice of case action informing Petitioner it had denied her FAP application.
- 5. On August 24, 2015, Petitioner requested a hearing to protest the denial of her FAP application.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Department policies are contained in the Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM), Reference Tables Manual (RFT), and Emergency Relief Manual (ERM).

The Food Assistance Program (FAP) [formerly known as the Food Stamp program] is established by the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, 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 Department of Human Services) administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10, the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001-.3011.

In this case, Petitioner failed to respond to the Department's requests for employment and income information in a timely manner. Petitioner argues that she sent documentation by facsimile; however, the documentation provided shows that Petitioner did not send the information in a timely fashion but after the Department had already denied Petitioner's FAP application.

Department policy demands that clients provide the Department with documentation of income, employment and various expenses. BAM 130 (October 2014).

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 Petitioner's FAP application.

DECISION AND ORDER

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

Michael Bennane

Administrative Law Judge for Nick Lyon, Director

Department of Health and Human Services

Date Signed: 10/22/2015

Date Mailed: 10/22/2015

MJB / pf

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 <u>MAY</u> order a rehearing or reconsideration on its own motion. MAHS <u>MAY</u> 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

