

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

IN THE MATTER OF:



MAHS Reg. No.: 15-022061
Issue No.: 3001
Agency Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: January 13, 2016
County: Washtenaw

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Carmen G. Fahie

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 January 13, 2016, from Lansing, Michigan. The Petitioner was present and testified on her own behalf. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by [REDACTED], Family Independence Manager, who testified on behalf of the Department.

ISSUE

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. The Claimant applied for FAP benefits on October 8, 2015.
2. On November 6, 2015, the Department denied the Claimant's application because the required verifications were not received and the mail sent was returned as to the local office that the address was vacant.
3. On November 23, 2015, the Department received a hearing request from the Claimant, 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 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, the Claimant applied for FAP benefits on October 8, 2015. On November 6, 2015, the Department denied the Claimant's application because the required verifications were not received and the mail sent was returned as to the local office that the address was vacant. On November 23, 2015, the Department received a hearing request from the Claimant, contesting the Department's negative action. BAM 115 and 130.

During the hearing, it was determined the Department sent the notices to the wrong address due to a typographical error. The correct address is [REDACTED], [REDACTED], but the last number was transposed to an [REDACTED] instead of a [REDACTED]. The Department determined that the Claimant is eligible for a supplement retroactive to October 8, 2015. As a result, a BRIDGES ticket was issued to fix the issue of [REDACTED].

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 did act in accordance with Department policy when it corrected its error of the mistyped of the Claimant's address resulting in her not receiving the Department's notices and issuing a BRIDGES ticket to correct the error.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is **AFFIRMED**. The Department is ordered to give BRIDGES ticket [REDACTED] priority.

Carmen G. Fahie

Carmen G. Fahie
Administrative Law Judge
for Nick Lyon, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

Date Mailed: **1/20/2016**

CGF/las

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:

