RICK SNYDER GOVERNOR

# STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS MICHIGAN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING SYSTEM Christopher Seppanen Executive Director

MIKE ZIMMER



Date Mailed: March 31, 2016 MAHS Docket No.: 16-001222

Agency No.:
Petitioner:

## ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and 42 CFR 431.200 *et seq.*, upon the Petitioner's request for a hearing.

After due notice, a hearing was held on appeared on behalf of the Petitioner.

Department of Health and Human Services (Department).

Services Worker (ASW), appeared as a witness for the Department.

#### Exhibits:

Petitioner: None

Respondent Exhibit A – Hearing Summary

#### ISSUE

Did the Department properly determine the Appellant's Home Help Services (HHS) benefits?

## FINDINGS OF FACT

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

- 1. On assessment, the ASW visited the Petitioner and conducted an in-home assessment. (Exhibit A, p. 17; Testimony.)
- 2. On the ASW sent the Petitioner a Services Approval Notice increasing the Petitioner's HHS benefits based upon information gathered at the assessment. (Exhibit A, p. 6; Testimony.)

- 3. On expectation, the Department received the Petitioner's request for hearing. (Exhibit A, pp. 4, 5.)
- 4. The Petitioner did not have a dispute with the Notice. (Testimony.)
- 5. Petitioner requested the hearing because he needed to have a denial letter from the Department in order to be eligible for MI-Choice Waiver services from the Area Agency on Aging. (Testimony.)

# **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The Medical Assistance Program (MA) is established pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act and is implemented by Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). It is administered in accordance with state statute, the Administrative Code, and the State Plan under Title XIX of the Social Security Act Medical Assistance Program.

Home Help Services (HHS) are provided to enable functionally limited individuals to live independently and receive care in the least restrictive, preferred settings. These activities must be certified by a health professional and may be provided by individuals or by private or public agencies.

Adult Services Manual (ASM) 101, addresses HHS payments:

# **Payment Services Home Help**

Home help services are non-specialized personal care service activities provided under the independent living services program to persons who meet eligibility requirements.

Home help services are provided to enable individuals with functional limitation(s), resulting from a medical or physical disability or cognitive impairment to live independently and receive care in the least restrictive, preferred settings.

ASM 101, 12-1-2013, Page 1of 4.

ASM 105, addresses HHS eligibility requirements:

#### Requirements

Home help eligibility requirements include all of the following:

- Medicaid eligibility.
- Certification of medical need.

- Need for service, based on a complete comprehensive assessment (DHS-324) indicating a functional limitation of level 3 or greater for activities of daily living (ADL).
- Appropriate Level of Care (LOC) status.

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# **Necessity For Service**

The adult services specialist is responsible for determining the necessity and level of need for home help services based on:

- Client choice.
- A completed DHS-324, Adult Services Comprehensive Assessment. An individual must be assessed with at least one activity of daily living (ADL) in order to be eligible to receive home help services.

Note: If the assessment determines a need for an ADL at a level 3 or greater but these services are not paid for by the department, the individual would be eligible to receive IADL services.

Example: Ms. Smith is assessed at a level 4 for bathing however she refuses to receive assistance. Ms. Smith would be eligible to receive assistance with IADL's if the assessment determines a need at a level 3 or greater.

Note: If an individual uses adaptive equipment to assist with an ADL, and without the use of this equipment the person would require hands-on care, the individual must be ranked a level 3 or greater on the functional assessment. This individual would be eligible to receive home help services.

Example: Mr. Jones utilizes a transfer bench to get in and out of the bathtub, which allows him to bathe himself without the hands-on assistance of another. The adult services specialist must rank Mr. Jones a 3 or greater under the functional assessment. Mr. Jones would be eligible to receive home help services.

Assistive technology includes such items as walkers, wheelchairs, canes, reachers, lift chairs, bath benches, grab bars and hand held showers.

 Verification of the client's medical need by a Medicaid enrolled medical professional via the DHS-54A. The client is responsible for obtaining the medical certification of need; see ASM 115, Adult Services Requirements.

*ASM 105,* 4-1-2015, Pages 1, 3, 4 of 4

The evidence presented indicates the Department properly determined the appropriate amount and scope of HHS benefits for the Petitioner. Additionally, there does not appear to be an actual dispute with the determination made by the Department as the Petitioner's focus was on acquiring a denial for additional services in order to be eligible for another program.

Accordingly, I find evidence to affirm the Department's actions in this matter.

# **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides that

## IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that:

The Department's decision is **AFFIRMED**.

CA/

Corey Arendt

Administrative Law Judge for Nick Lyon, Director

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Department of Health and Human Services

**NOTICE OF APPEAL**: A party may appeal this Order in circuit court within 30 days of the receipt date. A copy of the circuit court appeal must be filed with the Michigan Administrative Hearing System (MAHS).

A party may request a rehearing or reconsideration of this Order if the request is received by MAHS within 30 days of the date the Order was issued. The party requesting a rehearing or reconsideration must provide the specific reasons for the request. MAHS will not review any response to a request for rehearing/reconsideration.

A written request may be mailed or faxed to MAHS. If submitted by fax, the written request must be faxed to (517) 335-6088; 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 30763 Lansing, Michigan 48909-8139

| DHHS                    |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Agency Representative   |  |
| DHHS Department Rep.    |  |
| DHHS -Dept Contact      |  |
| Authorized Hearing Rep. |  |
| Petitioner              |  |