RICK SNYDER GOVERNOR STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS MICHIGAN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING SYSTEM Christopher Seppanen Executive Director

MIKE ZIMMER DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: March 30, 2016 MAHS Docket No.: 16-001478 Agency No.: Petitioner:

## ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Kevin Scully

## **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. After due notice, telephone hearing was held on March 24, 2016, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Petitioner included and additional and additional. (Assistance Payments Supervisor) represented the Department of Health and Human Services (Department). Witnesses on behalf of the Department included (Eligibility Specialist).

#### **ISSUE**

Did the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) properly close the Petitioner's Medical Assistance (MA) 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. The Petitioner was an ongoing Medical Assistance (MA) recipient.
- 2. The Petitioner received Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (RSDI) benefits on January 1, 2016, and her Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits had closed.
- 3. On January 11, 2016, the Department notified the Petitioner that her Medical Assistance (MA) benefits as a Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipient would close effective February 1, 2016.

4. On January 22, 2016, the Department received the Petitioner's request for a hearing protesting the closure of her Medical Assistance (MA) benefits.

#### 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.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a cash benefit for needy individuals who are aged (at least 65), blind or disabled. The Social Security Administration (SSA) determines SSI eligibility. To be automatically eligible for Medicaid (MA) an SSI recipient must both be a Michigan resident and cooperate with third-party resource liability requirements. Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 150 (October 1, 2015), p 1.

The Petitioner was an ongoing MA recipient based on her receipt of SSI benefits. When the Department discovered that the Petitioner was receiving RSDI benefits and her SSI benefits had closed, she was no longer eligible for the category of MA that she had been enrolled in. The Petitioner is required to submit an application to determine her eligibility to receive MA under some other category, and no evidence was presented on the record that she has submitted a new application.

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 the Petitioner's Medical Assistance (MA) benefits.

### DECISION AND ORDER

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

Kevin Scull

Kevin Scully Administrative Law Judge for Nick Lyon, Director 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 30639 Lansing, Michigan 48909-8139

KS/las

# DHHS



Authorized Hearing Rep.

