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 3, 2016 MAHS Docket No.: 15-024045

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Vicki L. Armstrong

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 March 1, 2016, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner personally appeared and testified. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Hearing Facilitator

<u>ISSUE</u>

Did the Department properly determine Petitioner had a Medical Assistance (MA) spend down for May 2015?

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 September 28, 2015, the Department issued a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice informing Petitioner that as of August 1, 2015 ongoing, Petitioner was no longer eligible for MA. (Dept. Exh. pp 7-8).
- 2. On December 15, 2015, Petitioner submitted a Request for Hearing to the Department contesting the Department's negative action. (Dept. Exh. pp 2-3).

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

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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.

As a preliminary matter, the Department testified that prior to going on the record in this case the Department had resolved Petitioner's complaints regarding an MA spend down from June 2015 through November 2015. The Department representative explained that Petitioner should not have had a MA spend down during those months and she was able to correct that before the start of the hearing. However, the Department Representative stated that she had not had enough time to determine if Petitioner's spend down for the month of May 2015 was correct.

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated on the record, finds that the Department failed to satisfy its burden of showing that it acted in accordance with Department policy when it determined Petitioner had an MA spend down for the month of May 2015.

DECISION AND ORDER

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

THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO BEGIN DOING THE FOLLOWING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENT POLICY AND CONSISTENT WITH THIS HEARING DECISION, WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE DATE OF MAILING OF THIS DECISION AND ORDER:

- 1. Redetermine Petitioner's Medicaid program status for the month of May 2015.
- 2. Issue a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice to Petitioner of the results of the May 2015 redetermination.

Vicki L. Armstrong

Administrative Law Judge for Nick Lyon, Director

Department of Health and Human Services

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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

