



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

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

MIKE ZIMMER
DIRECTOR

[REDACTED]

Date Mailed: [REDACTED]
MAHS Docket No.: 16-000558
Agency No.: [REDACTED]
Petitioner: [REDACTED]

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Janice Spodarek

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 [REDACTED]. Petitioner appeared. [REDACTED], Appeals Review Officer represented the Department of Health and Human Services (Respondent). [REDACTED], Adult Services Worker, appeared as a witness.

ISSUE

Did the Respondent properly deny Petitioner's HHS referral?

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 [REDACTED] the Respondent received a referral on behalf of Petitioner for HHS. (Exhibit A.16).
2. On [REDACTED] Petitioner's ASW was informed by Petitioner's Medicaid worker that Petitioner had a spend-down that had not been met since [REDACTED]. (Exhibit A.19-20).

3. On [REDACTED] the Respondent issued an Adequate Action Notice informing Respondent that he did not meet the eligibility requirements for the HHS program as he had a monthly spend down that had not been met. Bridges showed Petitioner's MA scope of coverage to be "2C" since [REDACTED]. (Exhibit A.9-12; 20).
4. On [REDACTED] MAHS received Petitioner's request for an administrative hearing. (Exhibit A.4).

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.

The Adult Services Manual (ASM) addresses eligibility for Home Help Services:

Respondent policy requires Medicaid eligibility in order to receive HHS, and clients with a monthly spend-down are not eligible until they have met their spend-down obligation. (Adult Services Manual (ASM) 105, November 1, 2011, pages 1-2 of 3).

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.

Medicaid/Medical Aid (MA)

The client may be eligible for MA under one of the following:

- All requirements for Medicaid have been met.
- MA deductible obligation has been met.

The client must have a scope of coverage of either:

- 1F or 2F.
- 1D or 1K (Freedom to Work).
- 1T (Healthy Kids Expansion).

Clients with a scope of coverage 20, 2C or 2B are **not** eligible for Medicaid until they have met their MA deductible obligation.

Note: A change in the scope of coverage in Bridges will generate a system tickler in ASCAP for active services cases.

Medicaid Personal Care Option

Clients in need of home help personal care services may become eligible for MA under the Medicaid personal care option.

Discuss this option with the client and coordinate implementation with the eligibility specialist.

Conditions of eligibility:

- The client meets all Medicaid eligibility factors except income.
- An independent living services case is open.
- The client is eligible for home help services.
- The cost of personal care services is **more** than the MA excess income amount.

If **all** the above conditions have been satisfied, the client has met MA deductible requirements. The adult services specialist can apply the personal care option in ASCAP. The deductible amount is entered on the **MA History** tab of the Bridges **Eligibility** module in ASCAP.

Use the DHS-1210, Services Approval Notice to notify the client of home help services approval when MA eligibility is met through this option. The notice must inform the client that the home help payment will be affected by the deductible amount, and that the client is responsible for paying the provider the MA deductible amount each month.

Do **not** close a case eligible for MA based on this policy option if the client does not pay the provider. It has already been ensured that MA funds will not be used to pay the client's deductible liability. The payment for these expenses is the responsibility of the client.

Changes in the client's deductible amount will generate a system tickler from Bridges.

MA eligibility under this option **cannot** continue if the cost of personal care becomes **equal to or less than** the MA excess income amount.

Adult Services Manual (ASM) 105, 11-1-2011 pages 1-2 of 3

The Petitioner's need for assistance at home was not contested in this case. Rather, the Respondent denied Petitioner's HHS referral on the grounds that Petitioner had not met his spend-down since the month of [REDACTED]. That is, Petitioner did not have an active MA case.

HHS is a program for individuals who have active Medicaid. In order for Petitioner to remain eligible for the HHS grant, he must meet the financial eligibility criteria, including meeting his spend-down each month to be financially eligible. Evidence here indicates that Petitioner did not meet his spend-down since [REDACTED], and thus, did not have eligibility.

Petitioner did not dispute the facts.

The Respondent's documentation establishes that the Petitioner had an unmet Medicaid spend-down. Therefore, the Petitioner is not eligible to receive HHS and thus, the denial of the HHS referral was appropriate and required under federal and state law.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides that the Respondent properly denied Petitioner's HHS referral based on the evidence and

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that:

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

JS/cg



Janice Spodarek

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 30763
Lansing, Michigan 48909-8139

DHHS

[REDACTED]

Agency Representative

[REDACTED]

DHHS Department Rep.

[REDACTED]

DHHS -Dept Contact

[REDACTED]

Petitioner

[REDACTED]