RICK SNYDER GOVERNOR

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

SHELLY EDGERTON



Date Mailed: March 22, 2017 MAHS Docket No.: 17-001037

Agency No.: Petitioner:

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Corey Arendt

## **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 Mach 21, 2017. The Petitioner appeared on his own behalf.

Appeals Review Officer, appeared on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services (Department).

Adult Services Worker (ASW), appeared as a witness on behalf of the Department.

## Exhibits:

Petitioner None

Department A – Hearing Summary

#### **ISSUE**

Did the Department properly suspend the Petitioner's Home Help Services (HHS) case?<sup>1</sup>

## FINDINGS OF FACT

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

- 1. As of January 23, 2017, Petitioner was receiving HHS. (Exhibit A, p. 7; Testimony.)
- 2. On or around January 23, 2017, the ASW noticed the Petitioner's Medicaid (MA) was set to expire. (Exhibit A, p 11; Testimony.)

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Petitioner indicated he may have an issue regarding his Medicaid eligibility. The Petitioner was encouraged to contact the Michigan Administrative Hearing System at (517) 373-0722 and inquire as to the status of his request for hearing on that issue and to follow up with his Eligibility Specialist if there was no record of a request for hearing regarding a Medicaid eligibility issue.

- 3. On January 23, 2017, the Department sent the Petitioner an advance negative action notice. The notice indicated the Petitioner's HHS case was being suspended effective January 31, 2017 due to the Petitioner's Medicaid expiring. (Exhibit A, p 7; Testimony.)
- 4. On February 2, 2017, the Michigan Administrative Hearing System received the Petitioner's Request for Hearing which contested the closure of his HHS case. (Exhibit A, p 6; Testimony.)

# **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The Medical Assistance Program 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 Social Welfare Act, the Administrative Code, and the State Plan under Title XIX of the Social Security Act Medical Assistance Program.

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 physician and may be provided by individuals or by private or public agencies.

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

## 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).
- 3G (Healthy Michigan Plan).
- 7W (MiChild).
- 8L (Flint).

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.

Adult Services Manual (ASM) 105, 1-1-2017 pages 1-2 of 4

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The ASW testified the Petitioner's HHS case was suspended as the Petitioner did not meet the Medicaid eligibility requirements as required by policy. The Department provided documentation to corroborate these statements.

The Petitioner indicated he had issues with the Social Security Administration and returning documentations to the Department.

Although I sympathize with the Petitioner, the policy regarding this issue is clear. The applicable policy requires the Petitioner to have an acceptable form of Medicaid and that if a spenddown exists, the spenddown must be met. In this case, at the time of the HHS closure, the Petitioner did not have Medicaid.

Based on the evidence presented, Petitioner has failed to prove, by a preponderance of evidence, that the HHS closure was inappropriate. The applicable policy does not allow for HHS when the Petitioner does not have Medicaid. Accordingly, the HHS suspension is affirmed.

## **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, finds that, based on the available information, the Department properly suspended the Petitioner's HHS case.

#### IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

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

CA/sb

Corey Arendt

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 DHHS Department Rep. Agency Representative Petitioner DHHS -Dept Contact**