



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

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

SHELLY EDGERTON  
DIRECTOR

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Date Mailed: May 2, 2017  
MAHS Docket No.: 17-000903  
Agency No.: [REDACTED]  
Petitioner: [REDACTED]

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Michael J. Bennane**

**AMENDED HEARING DECISION ON RECONSIDERATION**

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 [REDACTED], from Detroit, Michigan. The Petitioner was represented by [REDACTED]. The Department of Health and Human Services (Respondent Department), was represented by [REDACTED], Family Independence Manager. On [REDACTED], the undersigned issued a Hearing Decision in this matter.

On [REDACTED], the Michigan Department of Education, Child Development and Care Program, apparently for Respondent Department, filed a request for reconsideration. On [REDACTED], Lauren G. Van Steel, Supervising Administrative Law Judge, issued an Order Granting Request for Reconsideration, and ordered that an Amended Hearing Decision be issued to remove reference to the issue of CDC benefits. The following is the undersigned's Amended Hearing Decision on Reconsideration.

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly calculate the Petitioner's eligibility for Family Independence Program (FIP), Food Assistance Program (FAP) and 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. On [REDACTED], the Department sent the Petitioner a Notice of Case Action informing the Petitioner that her FAP benefits have been approved [REDACTED], through [REDACTED].
2. The Petitioner's daughter, [REDACTED], had been receiving MA and FAP benefits on another case (No. [REDACTED]).
3. On [REDACTED], the Petitioner requested a hearing to protest the denial of her FIP FAP and MA coverages.

### **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 Family Independence Program (FIP) was established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-193, and 42 USC 601 to 679c. The Department (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) administers FIP pursuant to 45 CFR 233-260, MCL 400.10, the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3101-.3131.

The Food Assistance Program (FAP) [formerly known as the Food Stamp program] is established by the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, 7 USC 2011 to 2036a and is implemented by the federal regulations contained in 7 CFR 273. The Department (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10, the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001-.3011.

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.

In this case, the Petitioner's daughter, [REDACTED], had been living with her mother. The Petitioner's grandchildren have been living with their grandmother since [REDACTED] but were still listed under Case No. [REDACTED].

The Petitioner's application for FIP benefits was denied, according to the Department, because the Petitioner has reached the federal FIP time limit.

The Petitioner's grandchildren are eligible for FIP, FAP and MA benefits.

FAP, FIP and MA have been active during this time for the Petitioner's grandchildren on another case (Case No. [REDACTED]).

The Petitioner is precluded from FIP benefits, but the Petitioner's grandchildren are not; and the Department will have to calculate their FIP benefits.

According to the Department, the Petitioner's grandchildren were receiving FIP, FAP and MA on the previous case listed above, as their relative caretaker.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

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:

1. The Department acted in accordance with Department policy when it denied the Petitioner's FIP benefits due to her exceeding the federal time limit;
2. The Department did not act in accordance with Department policy when it failed to transfer the Petitioner's grandchildren to the Petitioner's case.
3. The Department failed to satisfy its burden of showing that it acted in accordance with Department policy when it failed to document the Petitioner's FIP benefits exceeding the federal time limit.

Accordingly, the Department's decision pertaining to Petitioner's benefits is:

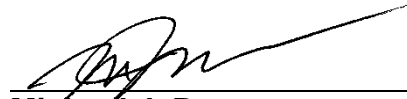
1. **AFFIRMED IN PART** with respect to the Department's denial of the Petitioner's application for FIP benefits; and
2. **REVERSED IN PART** with respect to denial of the Petitioner's application for FIP, FAP and MA benefits as a relative caretaker.

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

1. Close the Petitioner's FIP benefits and re-register and process the Petitioner's FIP as benefits for her grandchildren as their relative caretaker.
2. Re-register and process the Petitioner's FIP, FAP and MA benefits back to the date of application.

3. Remove the Petitioner's grandchildren from Case No. [REDACTED] and add them to Case No. [REDACTED]

LGV for MJB/jaf



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**Michael J. Bennane**  
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

