RICK SNYDER GOVERNOR

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

SHELLY EDGERTON



Date Mailed: May 8, 2017 MAHS Docket No.: 17-004594

Agency No.: Petitioner:

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Gary Heisler

## **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 May 4, 2017, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner was represented by herself. The Department was represented by Hearing Facilitator Department's Exhibit A pages 1-16 and Petitioner's Exhibit 1 were admitted into evidence.

# <u>ISSUE</u>

Did the Department properly determine Petitioner's Food Assistance Program (FAP) eligibility on March 28, 2017?

### FINDINGS OF FACT

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

- 1. Petitioner was an ongoing recipient of Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits.
- 2. On March 28, 2017, Petitioner's Food Assistance Program (FAP) financial eligibility budget was updated by correcting the amount of medical deduction that was verified and allowed. Petitioner was sent a Notice of Case Action (DHS-1605) which stated she was eligible for per month of Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits beginning May 1, 2017.
- 3. On April 5, 2017, Petitioner submitted a hearing request.

# **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 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.

During this hearing Petitioner argued that \$ per month was not enough to feed her. Petitioner submitted a letter from which stated that Respondent is under his care for diabetes and that she needs to consume a healthy diet in order to control her blood sugar.

Petitioner's Food Assistance Program (FAP) financial eligibility budget was reviewed. Petitioner's earned income of \$ and unearned income of \$ of Retirement, Survivor, Disability Income (RSDI) were verified. There were no changes in her shelter expenses. The incorrect, ongoing medical deduction of \$ was removed but the expense of her Medicare premium was included. The financial eligibility budget of March 28, 2017 was found to be correct. Petitioner is receiving the correct amount of Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits prescribed by law.

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 determined Petitioner's Food Assistance Program (FAP) eligibility on March 28, 2017.

# **DECISION AND ORDER**

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

GH/nr

Gary Heisler

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

