



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS
DIRECTOR

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Date Mailed: January 18, 2019
MAHS Docket No.: 18-012019
Agency No.: ██████████
Petitioner: ██████████

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Kevin Scully

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. After due notice, telephone hearing was held on December 20, 2018, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner represented herself. The Department was represented by Dionere Craft and Shenita Dancy.

ISSUE

Did the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) properly close Petitioner's 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. Petitioner was an ongoing Medical Assistance (MA) recipient when the Department received her Redetermination (DHS-1010) form on October 4, 2018. Exhibit A, pp 7-14.
2. Based on the information Petitioner reported on her ██████████ ██████████ 2018, Redetermination form, the Department sent her a Verification Checklist (DHS-3503) requesting verification of her income by November 5, 2018. Exhibit A, pp 15-16.
3. On October 24, 2018, the Department notified Petitioner that she was not eligible for Medical Assistance (MA) effective December 1, 2018. Exhibit A, pp 3-6.

4. On November 5, 2018, the Department received Petitioner's request for a hearing protesting the closure of her Medical Assistance (MA) benefits. Exhibit A, p 2.

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 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.

Clients must cooperate with the local office in determining initial and ongoing eligibility and this includes the completion of necessary forms. Department of Human Services Bridges Assistance Manual (BAM) 105 (January 1, 2018), p 8.

Verification means documentation or other evidence to establish the accuracy of the client's verbal or written statements. Verification is usually required at application/redetermination and for a reported change affecting eligibility or benefit level when it is required by policy, required as a local office option, or information regarding an eligibility factor is unclear, inconsistent, incomplete, or contradictory. The Department uses documents, collateral contacts, or home calls to verify information. A collateral contact is a direct contact with a person, organization, or agency to verify information from the client. When documentation is not available, or clarification is needed, collateral contact may be necessary. Department of Human Services Bridges Assistance Manual (BAM) 130 (April 1, 2017), pp 1-10.

Petitioner was an ongoing MA recipient when the Department requested that she provide verification of her income by November 5, 2018. Petitioner failed to provide the Department with verification of her income, and the Department closed her MA benefits effective December 1, 2018.

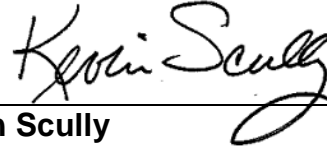
Petitioner failed to establish that she was eligible for MA as of December 1, 2018.

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 closed Petitioner's Medical Assistance (MA) for failure to provide the Department with information necessary to determine her eligibility to receive benefits.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

KS/dh

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Scully". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "S" at the end.

Kevin Scully
Administrative Law Judge
for Robert Gordon, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

