



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
MICHIGAN OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES

ORLENE HAWKS  
DIRECTOR

[REDACTED], MI [REDACTED]

Date Mailed: December 9, 2019  
MOAHR Docket No.: 19-012021  
Agency No.: [REDACTED]  
Petitioner: [REDACTED]

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Aaron McClintic

### **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; 42 CFR 438.400 to 438.424; 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 December 5, 2019, from Lansing, Michigan. The Petitioner was represented by herself. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Tasha Merlington, AP Supervisor. Quinton Zamarripa, Eligibility Specialist, appeared and testified for the Department. Department Exhibit 1, pp. 1-28 was received and admitted.

### **ISSUE**

Did the Department properly determine Petitioner's Food Assistance Program (FAP) 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 October 16, 2019, the Department received Redetermination paperwork from Petitioner.
2. On October 23, 2019, Notice of Case Action was sent to Petitioner informing her that her FAP benefits would be reduced to \$54 per month effective October 1, 2019.
3. On October 29, 2019, Petitioner requested hearing disputing the reduction of FAP benefits.
4. Petitioner's rent obligation was \$296 per month in October 2019.

5. Petitioner received unearned income of \$1,713 in October 2019.

### **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.

With regard to FAP benefits, the Petitioner did not dispute the amounts the Department used for unearned income and shelter expense. The Department presented sufficient evidence to establish that Petitioner receives \$1,713 in unearned income from Social Security. After deducting the \$161 standard deduction, and excess shelter deduction of \$38, Petitioner has \$1,514 in net income. A household of 3 that has \$1,514 in net income is entitled to \$54 in monthly FAP benefit. This is the amount determined by the Department and it is proper and correct. RFT 260, BEM 556, 7 CFR § 273.9

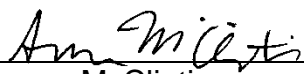
At hearing, Petitioner reported a change in her rental obligation for December 2019. Petitioner was advised to submit verification of change in rental obligation to the Department.

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 FAP benefit.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

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

AM/nr

  
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Aaron McClintic  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Robert Gordon, 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 Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules (MOAHR).

A party may request a rehearing or reconsideration of this Order if the request is received by MOAHR 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. MOAHR will not review any response to a request for rehearing/reconsideration.

A written request may be mailed or faxed to MOAHR. If submitted by fax, the written request must be faxed to (517) 763-0155; Attention: MOAHR Rehearing/Reconsideration Request.

If submitted by mail, the written request must be addressed as follows:

Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules  
Reconsideration/Rehearing Request  
P.O. Box 30639  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-8139

**DHHS**

Kimberly Kornoelje  
121 Franklin SE  
Grand Rapids, MI  
49507

Kent County DHHS- via electronic mail

BSC3- via electronic mail

M. Holden- via electronic mail

D. Sweeney- via electronic mail

**Petitioner**

[REDACTED], MI