GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

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

ORLENE HAWKS DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: November 1, 2019 MOAHR Docket No.: 19-010744

Agency No.: Petitioner:

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Jeffrey Kemm

#### **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; 45 CFR 99.1 to 99.33; and Mich Admin Code, R 792.11002. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on October 31, 2019, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner, appeared and represented herself. Respondent, Department of Health and Human Services (Department), had Natalie McLaurin, Hearing Facilitator, appear as its representative. Neither party had any additional witnesses.

One exhibit was admitted into evidence during the hearing. A 31-page packet of documents provided by the Department was admitted collectively as the Department's Exhibit A.

#### **ISSUES**

Did the Department properly determine Petitioner was not eligible for Child Development and Care (CDC) assistance?

Did the Department properly determine Petitioner was not eligible for 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. Petitioner applied for assistance from the Department, including CDC and FAP.
- 2. In September 2019, Petitioner had a total gross household income of \$\)
  Petitioner had a housing expense of \$575.00 for rent, and Petitioner was responsible for heating/cooling utilities. Petitioner had a household size of three.

- On September 13, 2019, the Department issued a notice of case action which notified Petitioner that her household was not eligible for CDC or FAP due to excessive income.
- 4. On Petitioner filed a hearing request to dispute the Department's decision.

## **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).

#### CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND CARE

The Child Development and Care (CDC) program is established by Titles IVA, IVE and XX of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 601-619, 670-679c, and 1397-1397m-5; the Child Care and Development Block Grant of 1990, PL 101-508, 42 USC 9858 to 9858q; and the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, PL 104-193. The program is implemented by 45 CFR 98.1-99.33. The Department administers the program pursuant to MCL 400.10 and provides services to adults and children pursuant to MCL 400.14(1) and Mich Admin Code, R 400.5001-.5020.

To be eligible for CDC at application, the applicant's gross household income must not exceed the maximum monthly gross income limit by family size associated with the program entry limit. BEM 703 (October 1, 2019), p. 16. The maximum monthly gross income limit for a family size of three is \$2,213.00 per month. RFT 270 (March 1, 2019). In this case, Petitioner's gross household income was \$ which exceeded the maximum monthly gross income limit for her household size. Since Petitioner's gross household income exceeded the limit, the Department properly found Petitioner ineligible based on her income.

## **FOOD ASSISTANCE**

The Food Assistance Program (FAP) 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 administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10, the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001-.3011.

The Department determines a client's monthly FAP benefit amount by determining the client's group size and countable household income and then looking that information up in its applicable Food Issuance Table. BEM 212 (July 1, 2019), BEM 213 (January 1, 2019), BEM 550 (January 1, 2017), BEM 554 (April 1, 2019), BEM 556 (July 1, 2019), RFT 255 (October 1, 2018), and RFT 260 (October 1, 2018). In this case, the Department determined that Petitioner was not eligible for a FAP benefit based on the

Department's budget. Petitioner did not present any evidence to establish that the Department did not properly budget her income and expenses. Upon a review of the budget used by the Department and the applicable Food Issuance Table, the Department used the correct standard deductions and correctly determined that Petitioner was not eligible for a FAP benefit.

## **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 the Department did act in accordance with its policies and the applicable law when it determined that Petitioner was ineligible for CDC and FAP.

IT IS ORDERED the Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

JK/ml

Jeffrey Kemm 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**

Kathleen Verdoni 411 East Genesee PO Box 5070 Saginaw, MI 48607

Saginaw County DHHS – Via Electronic Mail

BSC2 - Via Electronic Mail

L. Brewer-Walraven - Via Electronic Mail

M. Holden – Via Electronic Mail

D. Sweeney - Via Electronic Mail

## **Petitioner**

