RICK SNYDER GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS MICHIGAN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING SYSTEM

SHELLY EDGERTON



Date Mailed: January 19, 2018 MAHS Docket No.: 17-015912

Agency No.:

Petitioner:

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Ellen McLemore

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 January 17, 2017, from Detroit, Michigan. Petitioner was present and represented herself. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Ryan Clemons, Family Independence Manager.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly close Petitioner's Medical Assistance (MA) benefit case?

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 MA recipient.
- 2. On August 4, 2017, the Department sent Petitioner a redetermination/renewal form (Exhibit A).
- 3. On September 18, 2017, the Department sent Petitioner a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice informing her that her MA benefit case was closing effective October 1, 2017, ongoing for her failure to complete the renewal (Exhibit B).
- 4. On November 30, 2017, Petitioner submitted a request for hearing disputing the Department's actions.

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.

In this case, the Department sent Petitioner a DHS 10-10 Redetermination form on August 4, 2017. Although the document was titled "redetermination," the Department testified it was an annual eligibility review. According to the document, the form was required to be completed and submitted by September 5, 2017.

The Department must periodically redetermine or renew an individual's eligibility for active programs. BAM 210 (October 2017), p. 1. Redetermination, renewal, semi-annual and mid-certification forms are often used to redetermine eligibility of active programs. BAM 210, p. 1. For MA cases, a redetermination is an eligibility review based on a reported change and a renewal is the full review of eligibility factors completed annually. BAM 210, p. 1. The DHS-1010 redetermination form is generated and sent to the client at the time of an annual renewal. BEM 105 (April 2017), p. 3. Benefits stop at the end of the benefit period unless a renewal is completed and a new benefit period is certified. BAM 210, p. 3.

The Department testified that Petitioner did not complete the DHS-1010 form prior to September 5, 2017. On September 15, 2017, Petitioner contacted the Department and stated that she had a flood and just located her paperwork. Petitioner still did not submit the paperwork. On September 18, 2017, the Department sent Petitioner a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice informing Petitioner that her MA benefit case would close effective October 1, 2017, ongoing, for her failure to submit the renewal documentation. The Department testified that Petitioner's benefit period ended September 30, 2017.

Petitioner acknowledged that she never completed the DHS-1010. Petitioner stated that she had health and family issues that prevented her from timely completing the process. As Petitioner acknowledged that she did not complete the renewal process, the Department acted in accordance with policy when it did not renew Petitioner's MA benefits and closed her MA benefit case effective October 1, 2017, ongoing.

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 acted in accordance with Department policy when it closed Petitioner's MA benefit case. Accordingly, the Department's decision is **AFFIRMED**.

EM/cg

Ellen McLemore

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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

Via Email: MDHHS-Washtenaw-20-Hearings

M. Best EQAD

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Petitioner – Via First-Class Mail:

