

GRETCHEN WHITMER GOVERNOR STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS Lansing

ORLENE HAWKS DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: April 8, 2019 MAHS Docket No.: 19-000503 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 March 13, 2019, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner represented herself. The Department was represented by Ashlee Brown.

## <u>ISSUE</u>

Did the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) properly determine Petitioner's eligibility for Medical Assistance (MA)?

## 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 under the Healthy Michigan Plan (HMP).
- 2. Petitioner's husband receives monthly Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (RSDI) in the gross monthly amount of \$2,475. Exhibit A, pp 5-7.
- 3. On December 20, 2018, the Department notified Petitioner that she was no longer eligible for Medical Assistance (MA) under the Health Michigan Program (HMP) effective February 1, 2019. Exhibit A, pp 8-11.
- 4. On January 16, 2019, the Department received Petitioner's request for a hearing protesting the Department's determination of her eligibility for Medical Assistance (MA) benefits. Exhibit A, pp 2-3.

#### 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.

The income limit to participate in the Healthy Michigan Plan (HMP) is 133% of the federal poverty level. Department of Health and Human Services Reference Table Manual (RFT) 246 (April 1, 2014), p 1.

Petitioner was an ongoing MA recipient receiving HMP benefits. Effective January 1, 2019, the RSDI benefits Petitioner's husband receives became fully countable towards Petitioner's eligibility for MA benefits. See Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 503 (January 1, 2019), p 29. As a group of two, Petitioner and her husband received a gross monthly income of \$2,475, which is 176% of the federal poverty level. Therefore, Petitioner is no longer eligible for full Medicaid under the Health Michigan Plan (HMP).

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) benefits under the Healthy Michigan Plan (HMP).

#### DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

Kevin Scully

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

KS/dh

**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) 763-0155; 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

DHHS

Montrece White 27690 Van Dyke Warren, MI 48093

Macomb County, DHHS

BSC4 via electronic mail

EQAD via electronic mail

D. Smith via electronic mail

Petitioner

