GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

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

ORLENE HAWKS DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: February 25, 2020 MOAHR Docket No.: 20-000183

Agency No.:
Petitioner:

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Carmen G. Fahie**

#### **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 February 5, 2020, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner was represented by herself and her aunt, The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Candice Benns, Hearing Facilitator.

## **ISSUE**

Did the Department properly determine Petitioner's eligibility for the Food Assistance Program (FAP) and the Family Independence Program (FIP)?

## FINDINGS OF FACT

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the competent, material, and substantial evidence on the whole record, finds as material fact:

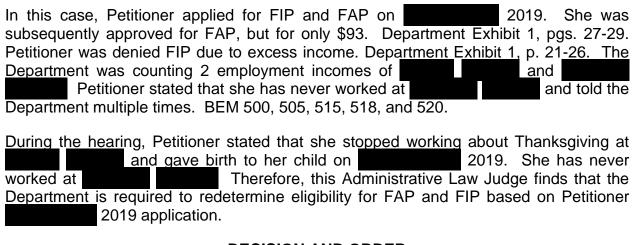
- 1. On Exhibit 1, pgs. 5-18. Petitioner applied for FIP and FAP benefits. Department
- 2. On December 20, 2019, the Department Caseworker sent Petitioner a Notice of Case Action, DHS-1605, that her FIP application was denied due to excess income. Department Exhibit 1, pgs. 19-20.
- 3. On January 2, 2020, the Department received a hearing request from Petitioner, contesting the Department's negative action.

## **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 Family Independence Program (FIP) was established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-193, and 42 USC 601 to 679c. The Department (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) administers FIP pursuant to 45 CFR 233-260, MCL 400.10, the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3101-.3131.

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.



### **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 failed to satisfy its burden of showing that it acted in accordance with Department policy when it determined Petitioner's eligibility for FAP and FIP by counting a job that she had not worked at.

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

THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO BEGIN DOING THE FOLLOWING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENT POLICY AND CONSISTENT WITH THIS

HEARING DECISION, WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE DATE OF MAILING OF THIS DECISION AND ORDER:

1.	Initiate a redetermination of Pe	titioner's eligibility for FAP and	FIP retroaction her	
	application dated	2019, by deleting the employ	ment for	
	and counting the inco	ne from only.	only.	

- 2. Based on policy, the Department should provide Petitioner with written notification of the Department's revised eligibility determination.
- 3. Issue Petitioner any retroactive benefits she may be eligible to receive, if any.

CF/hb

Carmen G. Fahie

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**

Wayne County (District 49) via electronic mail

BSC4 via electronic mail

- M. Holden via electronic
- D. Sweeney via electronic mail
- B. Cabanaw via electronic mail
- G. Vail via electronic mail

**Petitioner** 

