GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

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

ORLENE HAWKS DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: March 11, 2021 MOAHR Docket No.: 20-006947

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, a telephone hearing was held on February 16, 2021. Petitioner was represented by herself. The Department was represented by Eileen Cott and Dale Daniely.

#### **ISSUE**

Did the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) properly deny Petitioner's application for Child Development and Care (CDC) 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 2020, the Department received Petitioner's application for Child Development and Care (CDC) benefits. Exhibit A, pp 4-8.
- 2. Petitioner reported on her 2020, application form that she was not employed. Exhibit A, pp 7-8.
- 3. On October 20, 2020, the Department notified Petitioner that she was not eligible for Child Development and Care (CDC) benefits. Exhibit A, pp 14-17.
- 4. On October 23, 2020, the Department received Petitioner's request for a hearing protesting the denial of Child Development and Care (CDC) benefits.

### **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 Child Development and Care (CDC) program is established by Titles IV-A, IV-E, and XX of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 601 through 42 USC 619, 42 USC 670 through 42 USC 679c, and 42 USC 1397 through 42 USC 1397m-5; the Child Care and Development Block Grant of 1990, PL 101-508, 42 USC 9857 through 42 USC 9858r; and 42 USC 618 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, PL 104-193. The CDC program is implemented by 45 CFR 98.1 through 45 CFR 99.33. The Department administers the CDC program pursuant to MCL 400.10 of the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1 *et seq.*, and provides services to adults and children pursuant to MCL 400.14(1) and Mich Admin Code, R 400.5001 through 400.5020.

The goal of the Child Development and Care (CDC) program is to support low-income families by providing access to high-quality, affordable, and accessible early learning and development opportunities and to assist the family in achieving economic independence and self-sufficiency. The Child Development and Care program is intended to promote continuity of care and to extend the time an eligible child has access to child care assistance by providing a subsidy for child care services for qualifying families. Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 703 (May 1, 2020), p 1.

Each parent of the child needing care must have a valid need reason when child care is requested. Each need reason must be verified. There are four valid CDC need reasons:

- 1. Family preservation.
- 2. High school completion.
- 3. An approved activity.
- 4. Employment.

BEM 703, p 4.

Petitioner applied for CDC benefits. Petitioner is not employed and did not report any valid need for CDC benefits as defined by BEM 703. Since there is no valid need for CDC benefits as defined by BEM 703, the Department denied Petitioner's application for CDC benefits.

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 denied Petitioner's application for Child Development and Care (CDC) benefits.

# **DECISION AND ORDER**

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

KS/nr

Administrative Law Judge for Elizabeth Hertel, 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** 

Dora Allen 14061 Lappin Detroit, MI 48205

Wayne 76 County DHHS- via electronic mail

BSC4- via electronic mail

L. Brewer-Walraven- via electronic mail

**Petitioner** 

