GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

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

ORLENE HAWKS DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: October 24, 2022 MOAHR Docket No.: 22-004092

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 October 19, 2022, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner was represented by her mother The Department was represented by Lianne Scupholm.

ISSUE

Did the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) properly closed Petitioner's State Supplemental Security Income (SSP) 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. Department records indicate that on August 1, 2022, Petitioner did not receive a regular Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payment.
- 2. On August 20, 2022, the Department notified Petitioner that her State Supplemental Security Income (SSP) has been cancelled.
- 3. On September 7, 2022, the Department received Petitioner's request for a hearing.

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 State SSI Payments (SSP) program is established by 20 CFR 416.2001-.2099 and the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1382e. The Department administers the program pursuant to MCL 400.10.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a cash benefit to needy persons who are aged (at least 65), blind or disabled. It is a federal program administered by the Social Security Administration (SSA). States are allowed the option to supplement the federal benefit with state funds. In Michigan SSI benefits include a basic federal benefit and an additional amount paid with state funds. The amount of the state benefit varies by living arrangement. Payments of SSP benefits are made for only those months the recipient received a regular first of the month federal benefit. Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 660 (October 1, 2021), p 1.

Petitioner was an ongoing SSP recipient when the Department discovered through its database connection with the Social Security Administration (SSA) that Petitioner did not receive a regular SSI payment on August 1, 2022. Because she did not receive a regular SSI payment, the Department notified Petitioner that she was not eligible for the state funded SSP payment for that month.

Petitioner's representative did not dispute that her daughter did not receive a regular federal SSI payment on August 1, 2022, although she does not agree with the actions taken by the SSA.

However, Petitioner is not eligible for the SSP payment.

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 State Supplemental Security Income (SSP) benefits.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

KS/nr

Kevin Scully

Administrative Law Judge

Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings

and Rules (MOAHR)

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 <u>Via-Electronic Mail :</u> DHHS

Carisa Drake
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Interested Parties

Calhoun County DHHS

BSC3 D. Smith EQAD MOAHR

<u>Via-First Class Mail :</u> Petitioner

