

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

MARLON I. BROWN, DPA ACTING DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: December 12, 2023 MOAHR Docket No.: 23-006921

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 December 7, 2023, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner represented herself. The Department was represented by Shelby Smith and Jasmine Alexander.

#### **ISSUE**

Did the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) properly close Petitioner's Medical Assistance (MA) 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 June 2023, the Department sent Petitioner a Redetermination (DHS-1010) form with a July 5, 2023, due date. Exhibit A, p 14.
- 2. On September 2023, the Department notified Petitioner that her Medical Assistance (MA) benefits would close as of October 1, 2023. Exhibit A, pp 14-28.
- 3. On October 13, 2023, the Department received Petitioner's request for a hearing. Exhibit A, pp 4-5.

#### **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 through 42 USC 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 through 42 CFR 420.25. The Department administers the MA program pursuant to 42 CFR 435, MCL 400.10, and MCL 400.103 through MCL 400.112k of the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1 *et seq.* 

Clients must cooperate with the local office in determining initial and ongoing eligibility and this includes the completion of necessary forms. Department of Human Services Bridges Assistance Manual (BAM) 105 (October 1, 2023), p 9.

Verification means documentation or other evidence to establish the accuracy of the client's verbal or written statements. Verification is usually required at application/redetermination and for a reported change affecting eligibility or benefit level when it is required by policy, required as a local office option, or information regarding an eligibility factor is unclear, inconsistent, incomplete, or contradictory. The Department uses documents, collateral contacts, or home calls to verify information. A collateral contact is a direct contact with a person, organization, or agency to verify information from the client. When documentation is not available, or clarification is needed, collateral contact may be necessary. Department of Human Services Bridges Assistance Manual (BAM) 130 (October 1, 2023), pp 1-10.

Petitioner was enrolled in the Medicaid program on June 2023, when the Department sent her a Redetermination (DHS-1010) form with a July 5, 2023, due date. Petitioner was granted an extension to this due date, but on September 2023, the Department had not received sufficient information to determine her eligibility for ongoing benefits, and she was notified that her Medicaid benefits would close effective October 1, 2023.

Petitioner testified that her children were enrolled in Medicaid when she adopted them while a resident of Texas. Petitioner testified that as part of the adoption process in Texas, she was required to apply for Medicaid for her children.

Whether Petitioner is potentially eligible for Medicaid due to her status as an adoptive parent cannot be determined from the hearing record because Petitioner failed to complete the eligibility redetermination process. Therefore, the hearing record supports a finding that the Department was acting in accordance with policy when it closed Petitioner's 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 closed Petitioner's Medical Assistance (MA) benefits.

#### **DECISION AND ORDER**

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

KS/dm

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

Kimberly Kornoelje Kent County DHHS

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