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

MARLON I. BROWN, DPA DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: March 21, 2024
MOAHR Docket No.: 24-000789
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 March 14, 2024, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner represented herself. The Department was represented by Jessica Klein and Jasmine Alexander.

### ISSUE

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 recipient of Medical Assistance (MA) on October 2023, then the Department received her Renew Benefits form. Exhibit A, p 13.
- 2. Petitioner receives monthly Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (RSDI) in the gross monthly amount of **Sector** as of January 1, 2024, which includes a cost of living allowance. Exhibit A, p 24.
- 3. On October 2023, the Department notified Petitioner that she was eligible for Medical Assistance (MA) with a monthly deductible. Exhibit A, p 6.
- 4. Petitioner is an ongoing recipient of Medical Assistance (MA) with a **monthly** deductible. Exhibit A, p 26.
- 5. On January 23, 2024, the Department received Petitioner's request for a hearing protesting the level of Medical Assistance (MA) that she is receiving. 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.* 

The AD-CARE program is a category of Medical Assistance (MA) that provides health care coverage to individuals who are aged or disabled and have an income that does not exceed the federal poverty level. Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 163 (July 1, 2017), p 1.

Petitioner is an ongoing recipient of MA with a \$971 monthly deductible based on her RSDI benefits, which include an annual COLA increase, which is excluded income until April 1, 2014. Petitioner is not eligible for MA under the AD-CARE category because her income is 117% of the federal poverty level.

The Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) is a managed care program and not a Medicaid category. PACE is available to individuals that are medically qualified and 55 years of age or older. Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 167 (July 1, 2023), p 1.

A review of Petitioner's case reveals that the Department budgeted correct amount of income received by the Petitioner. Petitioner's "protected income level" is **Second** and this amount cannot be changed either by the Department or by this Administrative Law Judge. Department of Human Services Reference Table Manual (RFT) 240 (December 1, 2013), p 1. Department's determination that the Petitioner has a **Second** deductible per month she must meet in order to qualify for MA for any medical expenses above is therefore correct.

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 determined the level of Medical Assistance (MA) that Petitioner is eligible for based on her current circumstances.

## **DECISION AND ORDER**

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

KS/dm

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

# Via-Electronic Mail :

DHHS Kimberly Kornoelje Kent County DHHS MDHHS-Kent-Hearings@michigan.gov

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