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 22, 2024 MOAHR Docket No.: 24-001314 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 20, 2024, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner represented herself. The Department was represented by Devona Gilbert.

## **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 is an ongoing recipient of Medical Assistance (MA).
- 2. Petitioner receives monthly Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (RSDI) in the gross monthly amount of **Sector** Exhibit A, p 27.
- 3. On December 2023, the Department notified Petitioner that she was eligible for Medical Assistance (MA) with a \$ monthly deductible. Exhibit A, p 6.
- 4. On January 24, 2024, the Department received Petitioner's request for a hearing protesting the level of Medical Assistance (MA) that she is receiving. Exhibit A, p 4.

#### 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 Food Assistance Program (FAP) is funded under the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) established by the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, 7 USC 2011 through 7 USC 2036a. It is implemented by the federal regulations contained in 7 CFR 273. The Department administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10 of the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1 *et seq*, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001 through 400.3011.

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 receives RSDI payments that are 107% of the federal poverty level and she is not eligible for MA benefits under the AD-CARE category.

Petitioner receives RSDI benefits in the gross monthly amount of **S** and her cost-ofliving allowance is excluded until April 1, 2024. Petitioner was recently approved for the Medicare Savings Program (MSP), and she no longer has an insurance premium that she is responsible for. 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 **S** 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 **S** 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.

### **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

# Via-Electronic Mail :

DHHS Elisa Daly Saginaw County DHHS MDHHS-Saginaw-Hearings@michigan.gov

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Via-First Class Mail :

Petitioner