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: April 18, 2024 MOAHR Docket No.: 24-002101 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 April 11, 2024, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner represented herself. The Department was represented by Hannah Czechowski.

ISSUE

Did the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) deny Petitioner's application for Child Development and Care (CDC) benefits in accordance with policy?

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 November 2023, the Department received Petitioner's application for Child Development and Care (CDC) benefits. Exhibit A, p 7.
- 2. On January 2024, the Department sent Petitioner a Child Development and Care (CDC) Proof of Family Preservation Need (DHS-4575) with a January 22, 2024, due date. Exhibit A, p 35.
- 3. On January **■** 2024, the Department notified Petitioner that her application for Child Development and Care (CDC) benefits had been denied. Exhibit A, p 31.
- 4. On February 2024, the Department received Petitioner's request for a hearing protesting the denial of her application for Child Development and Care (CDC) benefits. Exhibit A, pp 3-5.

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 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.

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.

On November 2023, the Department received Petitioner's application for CDC benefits. The Department requested that Petitioner provide verification of the need for child care for a parent in the household. When that required verification was not received in a timely manner, the Department notified Petitioner that her application for CDC benefits had been denied.

Petitioner testified that she received poor service from her caseworker, which presented as a barrier for her to receive benefits that she is eligible to receive.

A complaint as to alleged misconduct or mistreatment by a state employee shall not be considered through the administrative hearing process but shall be referred to the department personnel director. Mich Admin Code, R 792.11002.

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) due to her failure to provide the Department with information necessary to determine her eligibility to receive 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

Via-Electronic Mail :

DHHS

Susan Derseweh Genesee County DHHS Clio Rd Dist. MDHHS-Genesee-Clio-Hearings@michigan.gov

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Petitioner



Via-First Class Mail :