



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
MICHIGAN OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES
SUZANNE SONNEBORN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MARLON I. BROWN, DPA
DIRECTOR

Date Mailed: June 17, 2024
MOAHR Docket No.: 24-004558
Agency No.: [REDACTED]
Petitioner: [REDACTED]

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Corey Arendt

DECISION AND ORDER

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9; 42 CFR 431.200 to 431.250; and 42 CFR 438.400 to 438.424, upon the Petitioner's request for a hearing.

After due notice, a hearing was held on June 13, 2024. Petitioner, [REDACTED] appeared on his own behalf. Lana Karadsheh, Appeals Review Officer, appeared on behalf of Respondent, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (Department). Gail Johnson, Adult Services Worker, appeared as a witness for the Department.

Exhibits:

Petitioner	None
Department	A – Hearing Summary

ISSUE

Did the Department properly deny Petitioner's request for Home Help Services (HHS)?

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the competent, material, and substantial evidence on the whole record, finds as material fact:

1. On March 15, 2024, the Department received a request on behalf of Petitioner for HHS. (Exhibit A.)
2. On March 15, 2024, the Department received a completed 54A Medical Needs form completed on behalf of Petitioner. The form was completed by

Petitioner's treating physician and indicated Petitioner needed assistance with grooming, dressing, transferring, mobility, taking medications, meal preparation, shopping, laundry, and housework. (Exhibit A.)

3. On April 18, 2024, Petitioner participated in a face-to-face assessment. Petitioner reported he has a bike and enjoys biking as well as caring for a "bully" puppy. During the assessment, Petitioner indicated he uses a bath bench and a walker, both of which were observed by the adult services worker performing the assessment. Petitioner indicated he needs assistance with housework, grocery shopping, cooking, laundry, and grooming (difficulty shaving his head).
4. On April 19, 2024, the Department sent Petitioner an Advance Negative Action notice. The notice indicated Petitioner's request for HHS was being denied as a result of not having an ADL ranked 3 or higher. (Exhibit A; Testimony.)
5. On April 30, 2024, the Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules, received from Petitioner, a request for hearing. (Exhibit A.)

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Medical Assistance Program is established pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act and is implemented by Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). It is administered in accordance with state statute, the Social Welfare Act, the Administrative Code, and the State Plan under Title XIX of the Social Security Act Medical Assistance Program.

Home Help Services (HHS) are provided to enable functionally limited individuals to live independently and receive care in the least restrictive, preferred settings. These activities must be certified by a physician and may be provided by individuals or by private or public agencies.

The Adult Services Manual (ASM) address issues of what services are included in Home Help Services and how such services are assessed:

ASM 101 AVAILABLE SERVICES

Payment Services Home Help

Home help services are non-specialized personal care service activities provided under the home help services program to persons who meet eligibility requirements.

Home help services are provided to enable individuals with functional limitation(s), resulting from a medical or physical

disability or cognitive impairment to live independently and receive care in the least restrictive, preferred settings.

Home help services are defined as those tasks which the department is paying for through Title XIX (Medicaid) funds. These services are furnished to individuals who are **not** currently residing in a hospital, nursing facility, licensed foster care home/home for the aged, intermediate care facility (ICF) for persons with developmental disabilities or institution for mental illness.

These activities **must** be certified by a Medicaid enrolled medical professional and may be provided by individuals or by private or public agencies. **The medical professional does not prescribe or authorize personal care services.** Needed services are determined by the comprehensive assessment conducted by the adult services worker.

Home help services which are eligible for Title XIX funding are limited to:

Activities of Daily Living (ADL)

- Eating.
- Toileting.
- Bathing.
- Grooming.
- Dressing.
- Transferring.
- Mobility.

Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL)

- Taking medication.
- Meal preparation/cleanup.
- Shopping for food and other necessities of daily living.
- Laundry.
- Light housecleaning.

An individual must be assessed with at least one activity of daily living (ADL) ranked 3 or higher or complex care need in order to be eligible to receive home help services.

Note: If the assessment determines a need for an ADL at a level 3 or greater but these services are not paid for by the department, the individual would be eligible to receive IADL services if assessed at a level 3 or greater.

Services not Covered by Home Help

Home help services must **not** be approved for the following:

- Supervising, monitoring, reminding, guiding, teaching or encouraging (functional assessment rank 2).
- Services provided for the benefit of others.
- Services for which a responsible relative is **able** and **available** to provide (such as house cleaning, laundry or shopping). A responsible relative is defined as an individual's spouse or a parent of an unmarried child under age 18.
- Services provided by another resource at the same time (for example, hospitalization, MI-Choice Waiver).
- Transportation - See Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM) 825 for medical transportation policy and procedures.
- Money management such as power of attorney or representative payee.
- Home delivered meals.
- Adult or child day care.
- Recreational activities. (For example, accompanying and/or transporting to the movies, sporting events etc.)

Note: The above list is not all inclusive.¹

¹ ASM 101, April 1, 2018, pp 1-2, 5.

ASM 105 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

GENERAL

Requirements

Home help eligibility requirements include **all** of the following:

- Medicaid eligibility.
- Appropriate program enrollment type (PET) code.
- Certification of medical need.
- Need for service, based on a complete comprehensive assessment indicating a functional limitation of level 3 or greater for at least one activity of daily living (ADL).

Certification of Medical Need

Medical needs are certified utilizing the DHS-54A, Medical Needs form and must be completed by a Medicaid enrolled medical professional. The medical professional must hold one of the following professional licenses:

- Physician (M.D. or D.O.).
- Physician Assistant.
- Nurse practitioner.
- Occupational therapist.
- Physical therapist.

Either the DHS-54A or veterans administration medical form are acceptable for individuals treated by a VA physician; see ASM 115, Adult Services Requirements.

Need for Service

The adult services worker (ASW) is responsible for determining the necessity and level of need for Home Help services based on all of the following:

- Client choice.
- A completed MDHHS-5534, Adult Services Comprehensive Assessment. An individual must be assessed with at least one activity of daily living (ADL) at a level of 3 or greater to be eligible to receive Home Help services.²

ASM 115 ADULT SERVICES REQUIREMENTS

MDHHS-5534, ADULT SERVICES COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT

Conduct a face-to-face interview with the client in their home to assess the personal care needs. Complete the MDHHS-5534, Adult Services Comprehensive Assessment, which is generated from MiAIMS; see ASM 120, Adult Services Comprehensive Assessment.

CONTACTS

The ASW must, at a minimum, have a face-to-face interview with the client, prior to case opening, and then every six months in the client's home for the review.³

² ASM 105 June 1, 2020, pp 1, 3.

³ ASM 115, Adult Services Requirements, May 1, 2023, pp 4-5.

ASM 120 ADULT SERVICES COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT

OVERVIEW

The MDHHS-5534, Adult Services Comprehensive Assessment, is the primary tool for determining a client's need for services. The comprehensive assessment must be completed on all open Home Help services cases. The Michigan Adult Integrated Management System (MiAIMS) provides the format for the comprehensive assessment and all information must be entered in the computer program.

Functional Tab

The Functional tab under the Assessment module in MiAIMS is the basis for service planning and for the Home Help services payment. Document the client's abilities and needs in the Functional tab to determine the client's ability to perform the following activities:

Activities of Daily Living (ADL)

- Eating.
- Toileting.
- Bathing.
- Grooming.
- Dressing.
- Transferring.
- Mobility.

Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL)

- Taking Medication.
- Meal preparation and cleanup.
- Shopping.
- Laundry.
- Light housework.

Functional Scale

ADLs and IADLs are assessed according to the following five-point scale:

1. Independent.

Performs the activity safely with no human assistance.

2. Verbal assistance.

Performs the activity with verbal assistance such as reminding, guiding, or encouraging.

3. Some human assistance.

Performs the activity with some direct physical assistance and/or assistive technology.

4. Much human assistance.

Performs the activity with a great deal of human assistance and/or assistive technology.

5. Dependent.

Does not perform the activity even with human assistance and/or assistive technology.

Home help payments may only be authorized for needs assessed at the level 3 ranking or greater.

An individual must be assessed with at least one activity of daily living ranked 3 or higher or a complex care need to be eligible to receive home help services.

Note: If the assessment determines a need for an ADL at a level 3 or greater but these services are not paid for by the department, the individual would be eligible to receive IADL services if assessed at a level 3 or greater.

Example: Ms. Smith is assessed at a level 4 for bathing. However, she refuses to receive assistance, or her daughter agrees to assist her at no charge. Ms. Smith would be eligible to receive assistance with IADL's if the assessment determines a need at a level 3 or greater.

Note: If an individual uses adaptive equipment to assist with an ADL, and without the use of this equipment the person would require hands-on care, the individual must be ranked

a level 3 or greater on the Functional tab in MiAMS. This individual would be eligible to receive Home Help services.

Assistive technology includes such items as; walkers, wheelchairs, canes, reachers, lift chairs, bath benches, grab bars, and handheld showers.⁴

The ASW testified that following the assessment it was determined the Petitioner did not have a functional ranking of 3 or higher for a single ADL that would qualify Petitioner for HHS.

The notes provided; however, indicate Petitioner as utilizing a bath bench and a walker of which both were observed. The testimony and notes; however, do not clearly indicate why these were not considered as assistive technology that may qualify Petitioner for HHS. Consequently, the Departments action should be reversed, and another assessment performed to determine Petitioner's eligibility for services.

Accordingly, the denial of Petitioner's request for HHS benefits was improper and must be reversed.

DECISION AND ORDER

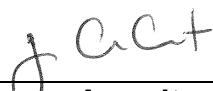
The Administrative Law Judge, based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, finds that the Department improperly denied Petitioner's HHS benefits request.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that:

The Department's decision is **REVERSED**.

The Department is ordered to rescind their negative action notice and perform a new assessment to determine Petitioner's eligibility for HHS and to issue retroactive benefits if otherwise eligible and qualified.

CA/pe



Corey Arendt
Administrative Law Judge

⁴ ASM 120, Adult Services Comprehensive Assessment, May 1, 2023, pp 1-3.

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 30763
Lansing, Michigan 48909-8139

**Via Electronic And
First Class Mail:**

Petitioner

[REDACTED]
MI [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Via Electronic Mail:

Agency Representative

Lana Karadsheh
MDHHS
235 S Grand Ave.
Lansing, MI 48933
Karadshehl@michigan.gov

DHHS Department Contact

Michelle Martin
MDHHS
400 S. Pine St., 6th Floor
Lansing, MI 48933
MDHHS-Home-Help-Policy@michigan.gov

DHHS Location Contact

Sherry Reid
MDHHS-Greenview Adult Services District
Wayne County, BSC-4
19340 Greenview Ave., Ste. 200
Detroit, MI 48219
MDHHS-WC-MAHSHearing@michigan.gov

DHHS Department Representative

Mary Carrier
MDHHS Appeals Section
P.O. Box 30807
Lansing, MI 48909
MDHHS-Appeals@michigan.gov