GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

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

MARLON BROWN DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: November 26, 2024 MOAHR Docket No.: 24-011869

Agency No.: Petitioner:

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Aaron McClintic

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; 42 CFR 438.400 to 438.424; 45 CFR 99.1 to 99.33; and 45 CFR 205.10; and Mich Admin Code, R 792.11002. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on November 13, 2024, from Lansing, Michigan. The Petitioner was represented by himself. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Jennifer Wagner. Susie Perez also appeared for the Department. Department Exhibit 1, pp. 1-26 was received and admitted.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly close Petitioner's State Disability Assistance (SDA), Medical Assistance (MA) and Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits for failing to verify unearned income?

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 August 2024, a Verification Checklist was sent to Petitioner requesting verification of unearned income.
- 2. On September 2024, a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice was sent to Petitioner informing him that his MA case was closing for failing to verify unearned income.
- 3. On September 2024, Notice of Case Action was sent to Petitioner informing him that his Cash Assistance and FAP cases were closing for failing to verify unearned income.

4. On October 21, 2024, Petitioner requested hearing disputing the closure of FAP and SDA.

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 to 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 to 42 CFR 430.25. MDHHS administers the MA program pursuant to 42 CFR 435, MCL 400.10 and MCL 400.103 to MCL 400.112k of the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1 *et seq.*

The State Disability Assistance (SDA) program is established by the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1 *et seq.* MDHHS administers the SDA program pursuant to 42 CFR 435, MCL 400.10 of the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1 *et seq.*, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3151 to R 400.3180.

The Food Assistance Program (FAP) [formerly known as the Food Stamp program] is established by the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, 7 USC 2011 to 2036a and is implemented by the federal regulations contained in 7 CFR 273. The Department (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10, the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001-.3011.

Send a negative action notice when: • The client indicates refusal to provide a verification, or • The time period given has elapsed and the client has not made a reasonable effort to provide it. BAM 130

In this case, Petitioner was sent several notices regarding verifying unearned income and also a verification checklist. Those notices and checklist were sent to Petitioner's address on record and were not returned. Petitioner was required to verify unearned income and when he did not it was proper and correct for the Department to close his case. BAM 130

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 SDA, FAP and MA cases for failing to verify unearned income.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is **AFFIRMED**.

AM/dm

Aaron McClintic

Administrative Law Judge

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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

Abigail Norton St Joseph County DHHS MDHHS-StJosephCo-Hearings@michigan.gov

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<u>Via-First Class Mail</u>: Petitioner