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: January 23, 2025 MOAHR Docket No.: 24-013846

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 January 16, 2025, from Lansing, Michigan. The Petitioner was represented by himself. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Jennifer Richard. Wendy Silva served as Spanish interpreter. Department Exhibit 1, pp. 1-23 and Exhibit 2, pp. 1-8 were received and admitted.

<u>ISSUE</u>

Did the Department properly close Petitioner's Food Assistance Program (FAP) and Medical Assistance (MA) benefits due to excess 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 October 24, 2024, a Notice of Case Action was sent to Petitioner informing him that his FAP case was closing due to excess income.
- 2. Petitioner earns per month in employment income from his job with (Ex. 2)
- 3. On December 12, 2024, Petitioner requested hearing disputing the closure of FAP.
- 4. On January 2, 2025, a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice was sent to Petitioner informing him that his MA case was closing due to excess income.

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) [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.

Using Past Income

Use past income to prospect income for the future unless changes are expected:

 Use income from the past 30 days if it appears to accurately reflect what is expected to be received in the benefit month.

Note: The 30-day period used can begin up to 30 days before the interview date or the date the information was requested.

Exception: For FAP only, when processing a semi-annual contact, the 30-day period can begin up to 30 days before the day the MDHHS-1046, Semi-Annual Contact Report, is received by the client or the date a budget is completed. Any 30-day period that best reflects the client's prospective income within these guidelines can be used.

Discard a pay from the past 30 days if it is unusual and does not reflect the normal, expected pay amounts. Document which pay(s) is being discarded and why. For example, the client worked overtime for one week and it is not expected to recur.

BEM 505 p.6

In this case, Petitioner earns per hour and works 40 hours per week at according to his check stubs. Petitioner earns per month based on the check stubs he provided. The income limit for MA-AdCare is \$1,275 per month. The income limit for MA-HMP is \$1,669 per month. Therefore, Petitioner is over the income limit for MA. The income limit for FAP is \$1,632. RFT 250 Therefore, Petitioner is over the income limit for FAP. The Department closures of FAP and MA based on excess income were proper and correct and consistent with Department policy.

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 FAP and MA cases due to excess income.

DECISION AND ORDER

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

AM/ml

Aaron McClintic

Administrative Law Judge

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

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Interested Parties

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EQAD MOAHR

Via First Class Mail:

Petitioner

MI