



STATE OF WISCONSIN
Division of Hearings and Appeals

In the Matter of



DECISION

MPA/159811

PRELIMINARY RECITALS

Pursuant to a petition filed August 11, 2014, under Wis. Stat. § 49.45(5), and Wis. Admin. Code § HA 3.03(1), to review a decision by the Division of Health Care Access and Accountability in regard to Medical Assistance, a hearing was held on October 07, 2014, at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The issue for determination is whether petitioner's appeal was timely filed.

There appeared at that time and place the following persons:

PARTIES IN INTEREST:

Petitioner:



Respondent:

Department of Health Services
1 West Wilson Street, Room 651
Madison, Wisconsin 53703

By: OIG by letter

Division of Health Care Access and Accountability
1 West Wilson Street, Room 272
P.O. Box 309
Madison, WI 53707-0309

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:

Mayumi M. Ishii
Division of Hearings and Appeals

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Petitioner (CARES # [redacted]) is a resident of Milwaukee County.
2. On June 17, 2014, the Department of Health Services sent the Petitioner a notice of negative action, advising her that her request for Personal Care Worker (PCW) service hours was denied.

3. The petitioner filed a hearing request for fair hearing that was received by the Division of Hearings and Appeals on August 11, 2014.

DISCUSSION

A hearing officer can only hear cases on the merits if there is jurisdiction to do so. There is no jurisdiction if a hearing request is untimely. An appeal of a negative action by a county agency concerning Medical Assistance must be filed within 45 days of the date of the action. Wisconsin Stat. § 49.45(5); Income Maintenance Manual § 3.3.1. A negative action can be the denial of an application, the reduction of benefits, or as in this case, the denial of requested services.

In the case at hand, the date of action was June 17, 2014, the date the Petitioner was notified that her request for services was denied. The petitioner's appeal was filed on August 11, 2014, 55 days after the date of the action. Thus, it was untimely, and no jurisdiction exists for considering the merits of the case.

The Petitioner asserts that she did not get the June 17th notice until August 1, 2014, because the Department of Health Services sent the notice to the incorrect address. The Petitioner's claim is dubious, given that the address on the June 17th notice is the same address listed for the Petitioner in the above headings and Petitioner confirmed that address as accurate. Further, all documentation submitted by the Petitioner's PCW provider, listed that exact same address. It is unlikely the Department of Health Services sent the June 17th notice anywhere, but the Petitioner's correct address.

Petitioner might wish to contact the Milwaukee County Aging and Disability Resource Center to learn about other resources that might be available to her.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

There is no jurisdiction as the appeal is untimely.

THEREFORE, it is

ORDERED

That the petition is dismissed.

REQUEST FOR A REHEARING

This is a final administrative decision. If you think this decision is based on a serious mistake in the facts or the law, you may request a rehearing. You may also ask for a rehearing if you have found new evidence which would change the decision. Your request must explain what mistake the Administrative Law Judge made and why it is important or you must describe your new evidence and tell why you did not have it at your first hearing. If you do not explain these things, your request will have to be denied.

To ask for a rehearing, send a written request to the Division of Hearings and Appeals, P.O. Box 7875, Madison, WI 53707-7875. Send a copy of your request to the other people named in this decision as "PARTIES IN INTEREST." Your request for a rehearing must be received no later than 20 days after the date of the decision. Late requests cannot be granted.

The process for asking for a rehearing is in Wis. Stat. § 227.49. A copy of the statutes can be found at your local library or courthouse.

APPEAL TO COURT

You may also appeal this decision to Circuit Court in the county where you live. Appeals must be served and filed with the appropriate court no more than 30 days after the date of this hearing decision (or 30 days after a denial of rehearing, if you ask for one).

For purposes of appeal to circuit court, the Respondent in this matter is the Department of Health Services. After filing the appeal with the appropriate court, it must be served on the Secretary of that Department, either personally or by certified mail. The address of the Department is: 1 West Wilson Street, Room 651, Madison, Wisconsin 53703. A copy should also be sent to the Division of Hearings and Appeals, 5005 University Avenue, Suite 201, Madison, WI 53705-5400.

The appeal must also be served on the other "PARTIES IN INTEREST" named in this decision. The process for appeals to the Circuit Court is in Wis. Stat. §§ 227.52 and 227.53.

Given under my hand at the City of Milwaukee,
Wisconsin, this 8th day of October, 2014.

\sMayumi M. Ishii
Administrative Law Judge
Division of Hearings and Appeals



State of Wisconsin\DIVISION OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS

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Madison, WI 53705-5400

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The preceding decision was sent to the following parties on October 8, 2014.

Division of Health Care Access and Accountability