

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL, REGULATIONS, AND ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
55 FARMINGTON AVENUE
HARTFORD, CT 06105-3725

[REDACTED] 2015
Signature Confirmation

Client ID # [REDACTED]
Request #736044

NOTICE OF DECISION

PARTY

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

On [REDACTED] 2015, the Appellant requested an administrative hearing to contest the Department's determination of the applied income amount she owes each month to [REDACTED] Care and Rehab.

On [REDACTED] 2015, the Office of Legal Counsel, Regulations, and Administrative Hearings ("OLCRAH") issued a notice scheduling an administrative hearing for [REDACTED] 2015.

On [REDACTED] 2015, in accordance with sections 17b-60, 17b-61 and 4-176e to 4-189, inclusive, of the Connecticut General Statutes, OLCRAH held an administrative hearing. The following individuals were present at the hearing:

[REDACTED], Appellant's Son/Power of Attorney
Ryan Turko, Business Office [REDACTED] Care and Rehabilitation, Witness
Kenneth Smiley, Department's Representative
Pamela J. Gonzalez, Hearing Officer

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE

The issue is whether the Department has correctly calculated the amount of applied income that the Appellant is responsible to pay toward the cost of her care.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Appellant resides at [REDACTED] Care and Rehab. (Appellant's testimony)
2. The Appellant is a Title XIX long-term care Medicaid recipient. (Hearing record)
3. The Appellant receives Social Security income in the gross monthly amount of \$1,321.00. (Form W-1ER – Department's exhibit 1)
4. The Appellant receives a pension from the [REDACTED] in the gross monthly amount of \$826.27. This includes reimbursement for the cost of her Medicare premium. (Copy of Advice – Department's exhibit 2)
5. The Appellant is receiving SLMB coverage (Q03), payment for the cost of her Medicare premium. (Department's representative's testimony)
6. The Department has determined that the Appellant is responsible to pay \$2,087.27 per month toward the cost of her nursing home care. (Department's representative's testimony)

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Sections 17b-260 to 17b-264 of the Connecticut General Statutes authorizes the Commissioner of Social Services to administer the Title XIX Medical Assistance Program to provide medical assistance to eligible persons in Connecticut.
2. Uniform Policy Manual ("UPM") § 5045.20 provides that assistance units who are residents of Long Term Care Facilities ("LTCF") or receiving community based services ("CBS") are responsible for contributing a portion of their income toward the cost of their care. For LTCF cases only, the amount to be contributed is projected for a six month period.
3. UPM § 5045.20(A) provides that the amount of income to be contributed is calculated using the post-eligibility method starting with the month in which the 30th day of continuous LTCF care or receipt of community-based services occurs, and ending with the month in which the assistance unit member is discharged from the LTCF or community-based services are last received.
4. The Department correctly determined that the Appellant is responsible to contribute toward the cost of her care at [REDACTED] Care and Rehab.
5. UPM § 5045.20 B (1) (a) provides that the amount of income to be contributed in LTCF cases at initial calculation for each month in the six month period for which the contribution is projected, monthly gross income is established as follows: total gross monthly income which was paid or payable to the

applicant or recipient, in the six months prior to the period for which the contribution is projected, is divided by six.

6. The Department correctly determined that the Appellant's monthly gross income is \$2,147.27 (\$1,321.00 Social Security + \$721.37 Pension + \$104.90 Medicare reimbursement).
7. UPM § 5045.20 (B) (1) (b) provides that the total gross income is reduced by post-eligibility deductions (Cross reference: 5035-"Income Deductions") to arrive at the amount of income to be contributed.
8. UPM § 5035.25 (B) (1) provides a monthly deduction for LTFC units of a personal needs allowance ("PNA") of \$50.00, which, effective July 1, 1999 and annually thereafter, shall be increased to reflect the annual cost of living adjustment used by the Social Security Administration.
9. UPM § 5035.25 (B) (4) provides a monthly deduction for LTFC units of Medicare and other health insurance premiums, deductibles, and coinsurance costs when not paid for the Department or any other third party.
10. The Department correctly determined that the Appellant's monthly applied income totals \$2,087.27 (\$2,147.27 minus \$60.00 PNA).

DECISION

The Appellant's appeal is **DENIED**.

Pamela J. Gonzalez
Pamela J. Gonzalez
Hearing Officer

Copy: Tyler Nardine, SSOM, DSS, R.O. #50, Middletown
Kenneth Smiley, ESW, DSS, R.O. #42, Willimantic

RIGHT TO REQUEST RECONSIDERATION

The appellant has the right to file a written reconsideration request within **15** days of the mailing date of the decision on the grounds there was an error of fact or law, new evidence has been discovered or other good cause exists. If the request for reconsideration is granted, the appellant will be notified within 25 days of the request date. No response within **25** days means that the request for reconsideration has been denied. The right to request a reconsideration is based on §4-181a(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Reconsideration requests should include specific grounds for the request: for example, indicate what error of fact or law, what new evidence, or what other good cause exists.

Reconsideration requests should be sent to: Department of Social Services, Director, Office of Legal Counsel, Regulations, and Administrative Hearings, 55 Farmington Avenue Hartford, CT 06105.

RIGHT TO APPEAL

The appellant has the right to appeal this decision to Superior Court within 45 days of the mailing of this decision, or 45 days after the agency denies a petition for reconsideration of this decision, provided that the petition for reconsideration was filed timely with the Department. The right to appeal is based on §4-183 of the Connecticut General Statutes. To appeal, a petition must be filed at Superior Court. A copy of the petition must be served upon the Office of the Attorney General, 55 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106 or the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services, 55 Farmington Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105. A copy of the petition must also be served on all parties to the hearing.

The **45** day appeal period may be extended in certain instances if there is good cause. The extension request must be filed with the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services in writing no later than **90** days from the mailing of the decision. Good cause circumstances are evaluated by the Commissioner or his designee in accordance with §17b-61 of the Connecticut General Statutes. The Agency's decision to grant an extension is final and is not subject to review or appeal.

The appeal should be filed with the clerk of the Superior Court in the Judicial District of New Britain or the Judicial District in which the appellant resides.

