



State of West Virginia  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES  
Office of Inspector General  
Board of Review  
1027 N. Randolph Ave.  
Elkins, WV 26241

Joe Manchin III  
Governor

Martha Yeager Walker  
Secretary

June 21, 2007

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dear Ms. \_\_\_\_\_:

Attached is a copy of the findings of fact and conclusions of law on your hearing held June 19, 2007. Your hearing request was based on the Department of Health and Human Resources' proposal to terminate your benefits under the Aged/Disabled (HCB) Title XIX Waiver Services Program.

In arriving at a decision, the State Hearing Officer is governed by the Public Welfare Laws of West Virginia and the rules and regulations established by the Department of Health and Human Resources. These same laws and regulations are used in all cases to assure that all persons are treated alike.

Eligibility for the Aged/Disabled Waiver Program is based on current policy and regulations. Some of these regulations state as follows: The Aged/Disabled (HCB) Title XIX Waiver Services Program is granted to those individuals who meet all eligibility requirements. One of these requirements is that the individual must qualify medically. Eligible individuals are those who qualify medically for a nursing facility level of care but have chosen the waiver program as a means to remain in their home where services can be provided. [Aged/Disabled (HCB) Services Manual Section 503]

Information submitted at your hearing reveals that you do not meet medical eligibility requirements for the Aged/Disabled Waiver Program.

It is the decision of the State Hearing Officer to **uphold** the proposal of the Department to terminate your benefits and services under the Aged/Disabled Waiver Program.

Sincerely,

Pamela L. Hinzman  
State Hearing Officer  
Member, State Board of Review

cc: Erika H. Young, Chairman, Board of Review  
BoSS  
WVMI  
CWVAS

**WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN RESOURCES  
BOARD OF REVIEW**

\_\_\_\_\_,  
**Claimant,**

**v.**

**Action Number: 07-BOR-1046**

**West Virginia Department of  
Health and Human Resources,**

**Respondent.**

**DECISION OF STATE HEARING OFFICER**

**I. INTRODUCTION:**

This is a report of the State Hearing Officer resulting from a fair hearing concluded on June 21, 2007 for \_\_\_\_\_. This hearing was held in accordance with the provisions found in the Common Chapters Manual, Chapter 700 of the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources. This fair hearing was convened on June 19, 2007 on a timely appeal filed March 30, 2007.

**II. PROGRAM PURPOSE:**

The program entitled Aged/Disabled Waiver is set up cooperatively between the Federal and State governments and administered by the West Virginia Department of Health & Human Resources.

Under Section 2176 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981, states were allowed to request a waiver from the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) so that they could use Medicaid (Title XIX) funds for home and community-based services. The program's target population is individuals who would otherwise be placed in an intermediate or skilled nursing facility (if not for the waiver services). Services offered under the Waiver Program will include: (1) chore, (2) homemaker and (3) case management services. West Virginia has been offering the Waiver Services Program since July, 1982 to those financially eligible individuals who have been determined to need ICF level care but who have chosen the Waiver Program services as opposed to being institutionalized.

### **III. PARTICIPANTS:**

\_\_\_\_\_, Claimant

\_\_\_\_\_ Case Management Supervisor, Central West Virginia Aging Services  
Kay Ikerd, RN, Bureau of Senior Services (participated telephonically)

Presiding at the hearing was Pamela L. Hinzman, State Hearing Officer and a member of the State Board of Review.

### **IV. QUESTIONS TO BE DECIDED:**

The question(s) to be decided is whether the Agency was correct in its proposal to terminate benefits under the Aged/Disabled Home and Community-Based Waiver Program.

### **V. APPLICABLE POLICY:**

Aged/Disabled Home and Community-Based Services Manual Sections 503, 503.1, 503.1.1 and 503.2

### **VI. LISTING OF DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE ADMITTED:**

#### **Department's Exhibits:**

- D-1 Aged/Disabled Home and Community-Based Services Manual Section 503
- D-2 Pre-Admission Screening (PAS) assessment completed on January 29, 2007
- D-3 Notice of Potential Denial dated March 2, 2007
- D-4 Notice of Denial dated March 20, 2007
- D-5 Hearing request

### **VII. FINDINGS OF FACT:**

- 1) The Claimant is receiving benefits under the Aged/Disabled Waiver Program and underwent an annual re-evaluation to verify her continued medical eligibility.
- 2) The Bureau of Senior Services nurse completed a medical assessment (D-2) on January 29, 2007 and determined that the Claimant does not meet medical eligibility criteria for the program. The nurse testified that the Claimant received one (1) deficit on the Pre-Admission Screening (PAS) assessment in the area of physical assistance with grooming.

- 3) The Claimant was sent a Notice of Potential Denial on March 2, 2007 (D-3) and was advised that she had two weeks to submit additional medical information for consideration.
- 4) West Virginia Medical Institute sent the Claimant a Notice of Denial (D-4) on March 20, 2007.
- 5) The case management supervisor contended that two (2) additional deficits should be awarded to the Claimant in the areas of bladder incontinence and mental inability to vacate the building in the event of an emergency. Consideration of the two (2) additional deficits is moot, however, since five (5) deficits are required to establish medical eligibility for the Aged/Disabled Waiver Program.
- 6) Aged/Disabled Home and Community-Based Services Manual Section 503 (D-1)-Program Eligibility for Client:

Applicants for the ADW Program must meet the following criteria to be eligible for the program:

- C. Be approved as medically eligible for NF Level of Care.
- 7) Aged/Disabled Home and Community-Based Services Manual Section 503.1.1 – Purpose: The purpose of the medical eligibility review is to ensure the following:
  - A. New applicants and existing clients are medically eligible based on current and accurate evaluations.
  - B. Each applicant/client determined to be medically eligible for A/DW services receives an appropriate LOC that reflects current/actual medical condition and short and long-term services needs.
  - C. The medical eligibility determination process is fair, equitable and consistently applied throughout the state.
- 8) Aged/Disabled Home and Community-Based Services Waiver Policy Manual 503.2 (D-1): An individual must have five (5) deficits on the Pre Admission Screening (PAS) to qualify medically for the ADW Program. These deficits are derived from a combination of the following assessment elements on the PAS.

#24 Decubitus - Stage 3 or 4

#25 In the event of an emergency, the individual is c) mentally unable or d) physically unable to vacate a building. a) Independently and b) With Supervision are not considered deficits.

#26 Functional abilities of individual in the home

Eating----- Level 2 or higher (physical assistance to get nourishment, not preparation)

Bathing ----- Level 2 or higher (physical assistance or more)

Dressing ---- Level 2 or higher (physical assistance or more)  
 Grooming--- Level 2 or higher (physical assistance or more)  
 Continence (bowel, bladder) -- Level 3 or higher; must be incontinent  
 Orientation-- Level 3 or higher (totally disoriented, comatose)  
 Transfer----- Level 3 or higher (one-person or two-person assistance in the home)  
 Walking----- Level 3 or higher (one-person assistance in the home)  
 Wheeling----- Level 3 or higher (must be Level 3 or 4 on walking in the home to use Level 3 or 4 for wheeling in the home. Do not count outside the home)

#27 Individual has skilled needs in one or more of these areas B (g)suctioning, (h)tracheostomy, (i)ventilator, (k)parenteral fluids, (l)sterile dressings, or (m) irrigations.

#28 Individual is not capable of administering his/her own medications.

### **VIII. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

- 1) Policy dictates that an individual must receive five (5) deficits on the PAS assessment in order to qualify medically for the Aged/Disabled Waiver Program.
- 2) The Claimant received one (1) deficit in January 2007 in conjunction with her Aged/Disabled Waiver Program reevaluation.
- 3) During the hearing, the Claimant's representative contested two (2) potential deficits: incontinence of bladder and mental inability to vacate the building in the event of an emergency. The potential awarding of two (2) additional deficits would bring the Claimant's total number of deficits to three (3) and would not alter the Department's finding of medical ineligibility.
- 4) The required five (5) deficits have not been established to meet medical eligibility criteria for the Aged/Disabled Waiver Program.

### **IX. DECISION:**

It is the decision of the State Hearing Officer to **uphold** the Agency's proposal to terminate the Claimant's benefits and services under the Aged/Disabled, Title XIX (HCB) Waiver Program.

### **X. RIGHT OF APPEAL:**

See Attachment

**XI. ATTACHMENTS:**

The Claimant's Recourse to Hearing Decision

Form IG-BR-29

**ENTERED this 21st Day of June, 2007.**

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**Pamela L. Hinzman**  
**State Hearing Officer**