

petitioner that her RUFA grant would be reduced by \$75 effective August 1, 2004.

3. At the hearing in this matter, held on October 21, 2004, the petitioner admitted she had failed to appear at the meeting with her Reach Up worker on July 6. She maintained, however, that she had not received the follow up letter, although she admitted that Reach Up had sent it to her correct address.

4. As of the date of the hearing, the petitioner had still not initiated any resumption of her participation in Reach Up.

ORDER

The Department's decision is affirmed.

REASONS

The Reach Up regulations provide: "If a participating adult . . . fails to comply with services component requirements, the department shall impose a fiscal sanction by reducing the financial assistance grant of the sanctioned adult's family." The regulations also specify that noncompliance can include the failure "to attend and participate fully in FDP activities". W.A.M. § 2370.1.

As noted above, the petitioner in this matter admits that she failed to attend a scheduled meeting with Reach Up on July 6, 2004, and that since that time she has failed to participate in any Reach Up activities. Although the petitioner maintains that she did not receive a follow up letter sent to her address, it must be concluded that the Department's decision in this matter was in accord with its regulations.¹ Thus, the Board is bound by law to affirm. 3 V.S.A. § 3091(d), Fair Hearing Rule No. 17.

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¹ At the hearing the petitioner was advised that she could purge her sanction by resuming satisfactory participation in Reach Up.