



MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 5, 2017

TO: All Authorized Utah WIC Vendors

FROM: Nicole Reames
Benefits Delivery & Integrity Coordinator

MEMO #: FY 2017-06

SUBJECT: **Possible WIC Vendor Authorization Scam**

I have received information on a possible WIC authorization scam from our Regional offices and would like to pass that information on to you.

The organization in question has been contacting retail stores with claims that, for a \$349 one-time nonrefundable fee, it will assist vendors in acquiring "pre-approval" for WIC authorization. Those retailers which have been contacted report receiving that contact from a Michele Rodriguez or "Glory" from Secure Connect Solutions (841-621-0063, ext. 103), who claim to work on behalf of the "Department of Health WIC Program." The organization reportedly has a website and uses several forms containing the California WIC logo. Additionally, the organization has been requesting a bank account and routing number from retailers, in order to collect the fee. Since this situation was initially reported, we have learned that the organization has made contact with vendors in CT, NJ, PA and LA.

Please be aware that the State of Utah WIC program does not work with another entity to approve WIC vendors and we would never be asking for a fee for approval. If you are contacted by this organization, please feel free to let us know and we will pass that information on to our Regional offices.

We appreciate your participation in the Utah WIC Program and the great service you provide customers each day. Please do not hesitate to call us at 1-877-942-5437 or by email at nreames@utah.gov, if you have any questions.

cc: WIC Directors
Local Agency Retail Coordinators