



**WIC Advisory Council Meeting  
Utah Department of Health  
WIC Program**

March 21, 2018

**MINUTES**

WIC Advisory Council Members Present

Amanda Barlow  
Amy Peterson-Hill  
Anna Thomas  
Brian Bennion  
Cindy Taufa  
Dave Davis  
Debbie Gornichec  
Kali Iverson  
Katelynn George  
Kendra Muir  
Kristen Archuleta  
Marti Woolford

Ralph Clegg

State WIC Staff Present

Angie Sorrells  
Arie Van De Graaff  
Chris Furner  
Jessica Perkins  
Mykio Saracino  
Nicole Reames  
Penny Tisdale  
Phyllis Crowley  
Rick Wardle

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I. Welcome and Introductions

Dave Davis

Welcome to the Quarterly WIC Advisory Council Meeting!

Dave Davis made a motion to accept the minutes from our last meeting on September 6, 2017. Ralph Clegg seconded that motion. The motion was passed by show of hands.

By way of introduction, Dave Davis asked the meeting participants take a moment and tell us what their roles and areas of expertise are:

A WIC Advisory Committee Members:

- Amanda Barlow is a WIC Participant.
- Amy Peterson-Hill is a Division Front-End Manager
- Anna Thomas is the Senior Policy Analyst for the Voices for Utah Children.
- Arie Van De Graff is the new CSFP Coordinator
- Brian Bennion is the Weber Health Department Health Officer and Executive Director.
- Cindy Taufa is a WIC Participant.
- Dave Davis is the President of the Utah Retail Merchants Association.
- Debbie Gornichec is a Provider of WIC Services.
- Kali Iverson is professional with the Help Me Grow Organization.
- Katelynn George is a WIC Participant.
- Kendra Muir is a Provider of WIC Services.

- Kristen Archuleta is a WIC Participant.
- B State WIC Office Participants:
  - Lynne Nilson is the Director of the Bureau of Maternal and Child Health.
  - Mykio Saracino is the Utah State WIC Budget Coordinator.
  - Nicole Reames is the Utah State WIC Vendor Coordinator.
  - Penny Tisdale is our Systems Developer.
  - Phyllis Crowley is the Utah State WIC Nutrition Coordinator.
  - Ralph Clegg is the Utah County Public Health Director.
  - Rick Wardle is the Utah State WIC Program Operations Manager.
  - Angie Sorrells is the IT Program Coordinator/Manager for the WIC Program.
  - Chris Furner is the Utah State WIC Program Manager.
  - Jessica Perkins is a Utah State WIC Office Specialist.

## II. Legislative Updates, Sales Tax

Dave Davis

- A Dave discussed a proposal that was made to take the sales tax completely off food. That proposal failed. He feels like it would have the greatest impact on those who are “food insecure” but he does not feel like the legislature would be able to approve it at all and it would be an uphill battle especially when it gets to the senate. The state would be more prone to charge full tax for all Food and Non-Food/Prepared Food.
- B Donald Trump wants to take the SNAP Program, move it out of a public/private sector partnership, and go back to “welfare cheese lines” or to have the government provide a government commodities food box to send out to SNAP participants. Food vendors feel that the public/private sector partnership has worked well and feel that the private sector has delivered these services more efficiently and effectively. An example of that would be the United States Postal Service as opposed to FedEx or UPS. If that were to happen we would have to create a whole new distribution network and the overhead would be prohibitive.

## III. Operations Updates

Rick Wardle

- A Promoting the WIC Program in Washington DC - Chris and Rick went to Washington DC for the NWA National Leadership Conference. While they were there, they visited our Utah State Senate and Congresspersons. We were visiting with them to encourage them to advocate for WIC. We provided education about the program and presented many examples of testimonials and letters of thanks from WIC Participants. They seemed supportive of our program.
- B We have been busy doing Management Evaluations at our local clinics. We have to do these evaluations in each clinic every two years. So far this year we have evaluated Salt Lake and Utah County clinics. They are going really well, we had very few findings in Salt Lake County and no findings in Utah County.

## IV. Utah State Plan Updates

Rick Wardle

- A Each year we must turn in a new State Plan to the USDA. The process is the same each year; we make the edits in the spring, get feedback from the clinics and public, meet together to discuss changes needed, format the final drafts of the P & P for the USDA. Then the State Plan is sent to the USDA for approval. So far, there have been no hiccups and the process is going smoothly.

## V. Budget Updates and Funding

Chris Furner & Mykio Saracino

Mykio read from the following funding snapshot, as soon as we know exactly how much is awarded we can finalize the funding formula with the local Health Officers.

Total NSA Funding FFY 2017 = \$ 16,938, 858.00, we spent \$15,179,422.00 = \$1,240,564.00 under funding.

Base Food Funding FFY 2017 \$ 27,648,786.00, Total Food Expenditures = \$24,936,786.00 leaves \$2,712,146.00

NSA Funding for FFY 2018=\$ 16,744,403.00, so far we have \$11,240,483.00 on hand. To be awarded \$5,503,920.00.

Food Funding for FFY 2017 = \$ 27,648,786.00, amount awarded to date = \$16,012,293.00 to be awarded \$11,636,493.00.

Breastfeeding Peer Counseling Funding for FFY 2017 (2 year contract) \$ 479,350.00, Received by March FFY 2018 = \$221,367.00 or \$257,983.00 pending.

## VI. Nutrition and Breastfeeding Updates

Christina Perry

Some of the Nutrition Goals and Objectives for FY19 are:

- 1 Reduce the prevalence of low hematocrit/ hemoglobin among children who participate in the Utah WIC Program.
- 2 Reduce the percent of children in the Utah WIC Program who are overweight and at risk of overweight.
- 3 Increase the percent of women who gain the recommended amount of weight during pregnancy. And, provide drug and other harmful substance abuse information.

## VII. Vendor Management Updates

Nicole Reames

- A The State WIC Staff has been visiting vendors across Utah to collect their UPC codes. This information will be entered into our VISION computer system in anticipation of the EBT rollout. The staff goes to the store and collects the codes with a scanning device. The handheld device uploads the codes and puts them in the proper categories. So far 22 stores UPC codes have been uploaded.

## VIII. IT Updates, VISION, e-WIC, etc.

Angie Sorrells & Penny Tisdale

- A Our IAPD has been approved and the Quality Assurance Company RFP and the EBT Host Processor RFP are being finalized and sent to FNS for review.
- B The project plan had been established and all task and assignments are being made to WIC State Staff.
- C The 6.1 version of Vision has been released into production.

## IX. The New WIC Program "Pass-along-cards"

Chris Furner

- A WIC has created a business card to be used as advertising and as a community outreach tool. Please carry these with you and when you see a young mother with children that you feel may benefit from being a participant of the WIC Program please give her one of these cards. Please take an envelope and some cards from the middle of the table before you leave today.

## X. WIC EBT Card Design Survey

Chris Furner

- A Phyllis Crowley generously submitted 11 of her magnificent photos of the Utah landscape. Chris passed those images around to the group and the group voted on them. The winner was image #3, by 11 votes. It is Queen's Garden at Bryce Canyon National Park. Chris promised to consider your opinions when the final decision is made.

XI. Next Meeting Date – (Proposed Date, Wednesday, September 19, 2018)

All

XII. Adjourned at approximately 1:00 pm.