

From: [Wayne, Kathleen A \(HSS\)](#)
To: [HSS DPA WIC Coordinators](#); [Bennis, Don](#); [O'Gara, Kathy \(HSS Sponsored\)](#); [Welch, Scooter \(HSS Sponsored\)](#)
Cc: [HSS DPA WIC Anchorage](#); [HSS DPA WIC Juneau](#); [Olejasz, Aimee M \(HSS\)](#); [Butcher, Clay \(HSS\)](#); ["Danielle Rybicki" \(afdr@uaa.alaska.edu\)](#)
Subject: WIC Update February 5
Date: Friday, February 05, 2016 3:54:12 PM
Attachments: [Instructions to set up an Alaska WIC Training Account.pdf](#)

Hi Everyone,

A few things to share this week. Hope you have a great weekend.

Kathleen

Success Story:

This week Jennifer had a great experience while answering the phone on Sherry's behalf. Below is the email from the young woman on the phone with Jennifer. Some information is left out to protect the identity of the caller. We assume that the BFPC referred to is from RCPC:

"First off I would love to say it was nice speaking with you today. You're a very sweet woman. You helped me out to where I needed to call about getting into WIC. Then the chit chatting was nice. I just wanted to say how satisfied I am with not only WIC itself, I am happy to mention all the workers are amazing!! Especially my breastfeeding Counselor Alison. If it weren't for her I'd be a bit lost lol. She always makes sure baby (insert baby name here) and I are doing well and if there's anything at all she can do to help if there are any concerns. She makes me feel as if she tries her hardest to answer anything I ask. She's a great listener. Very friendly and I could never ask for a better person to talk with about breastfeeding. Or whatever else that I have questions about. Breastfeeding has been challenging an amazing experience EVER!! There are so many times I wanted to just give up. But no I didn't. If only I could go back and do it with my other two children I never nursed I would. But its ok their healthy till this day. I did with this child and don't regret it what so ever. I am loving the bonding time between the both of us. He bites down at times and it gets a bit difficult to the point where I'm like I cannot do this anymore I give up!! No (insert Mom's name here) you got this!! Here 6 months into it and I'm living it 😊. If I were asked later on down the road if I would ever do it again if we decided let's have another baby, Yes most defiantly I would breastfeed again! Or if I ever have other mothers ask how it went I would encourage them to do it. Then if they ask why?!? Well not only is it best for your baby, it's the best bonding time ever. I wouldn't change it for the . Thank you for taking your time and reading this. I really appreciate it and so happy you asked me to email you. You have a great evening – (Insert Client Name Here) "

1. **WIC CPA Teleconference- February 9th, 2016**

Our first WIC CPA Teleconference is coming on Tuesday at 9am. Please share this information with your CPAs. We'll all dial into the teleconference and log into the web site, and we'll go through the training site together. You'll have a chance to give input on what kind of training you'd like, and share your ideas. It would be helpful if you can dial into the teleconference where you also have computer access. You will use the same

training account you set up when you completed the Baby Behavior Training or when you completed your initial WIC CPA Training. If you did not, please follow the attached instructions (*Instructions to set up an Alaska WIC Training Account*) and set up an account before the teleconference.

We'll use the regular call in number, which will be sent out in a reminder on Monday.

For more information, contact: Danielle Rybicki, UAA WIC Training Program, (907) 786-4936 drrybicki@uaa.alaska.edu

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2. SPIRIT Update:

a. SPIRIT Tips and Reminders:

It's February and as a quick reminder, when you certify a participant with a PFDTU of the 28th or later SPIRIT will issue a half package and then adjust to the 1st of the following month and issue a full package.

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b. SPIRIT Help Desk Info:

Send all questions, issues and errors to the WIC SPIRIT Helpdesk at wicspirithelpdesk@alaska.gov or phone them at 907-334-4900.

- c. Mid Cert Assessments (MCAs): The SPIRIT Help Desk has had recent reports of food prescriptions being dropped during MCAs. This is due to the MCA screen being completed out of order. For SPIRIT to work properly the CGS & MCA screens should be done in the order that the functions appear. Skipping around and filling in certain items out of order may cause the food prescription to be dropped.

If your clinic prefills the MCA prior to doing height, weight & hemoglobin, enter the food package last. Food packages are based on risk factors so the food package can get dropped if the risk factors change. Questions? Contact the WIC SPIRIT Helpdesk at 334-4900 or wicspirithelpdesk@alaska.gov.

Alert!

- d. Medicaid Outreach list is now available on SPIRIT Utilities**

Nice To Know:

[Alaska Breastfeeding Coalition Annual Conference Notice](#)

Here is a link to a CDC call for increasing access to breastfeeding friendly environments:

CDC Breastfeeding Peer Networking Call

Increasing Access to Breastfeeding Friendly Environments

February 10th, 2016 from 2:30-3:30 EST

Toll-free: 866-581-9669

Participant code: 31358597



Sponsored by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
Breastfeeding Workgroup

Who are the calls for? This call series is intended for CDC grantees that are taking an active role in increasing access to breastfeeding friendly environments in birthing facilities, communities, or worksites. Please feel free to pass along call information to partners that are working on these strategies with you (**such as WIC Program, state/local coalition partners**).

What is the purpose? The purpose of this call series is to facilitate a networking forum to share information among public health practitioners on the following 1305 Breastfeeding Strategies:

- Practices supportive of breastfeeding in birthing facilities
- Providing access to professional and peer support for breastfeeding
- And ensuring workplace compliance with federal lactation accommodation law