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Good Afternoon,

The State WIC Office will be closed on Monday, February 15 in observance of Presidents' Day. We wish you a Happy Valentines and Presidents' Day!

Best,
Dana

SPIRIT FYI:

The "CPA in Training" role now has access to SPIRIT Utilities and will be able to access the same reports as the "LA Coordinator" and the "CPA Nutritionist". If you have any questions please contact your helpful Helpdesk personnel at: wicspirithelpdesk@alaska.gov or 334-4900.

REMINDERS

1. When you are handing out FIs to participants, please remind them of the proper ways to use the FIs at the store. We have had a rash of clients using FI out of the date range. When reviewing the FI with the participants point out the date ranges and explain or remind them of the first and last date to use the FIs. The vendor group is reminding the store of this as well. It is the participant's responsibility to use the FI properly, the store to review this at the check stand but it is only the store that is penalized when the FI are cashed out of the date range. So stores across Alaska thank you for reminding the participants of this important detail.
2. When you have a participant (less than 6 months) that receives formula through a Durable Medical Equipment provider (Geneva Woods or Pro Care) a nonredeemable WIC FI prints indicating that the formula is being paid through Medicaid. It is important to print this FI (this is what counts participation) however it should NEVER be handed out to the participant. There has been a few instances where the nonredeemable FI is handed to the participant, used at the store and again, the store is not paid. Thanks for your help in reducing these incidences across the state.

New ENPR- We're responding to the feedback we received on the draft ENPR that was distributed on February 4 for your review. Please do not share this with providers- we're still adding corrections. The date at the top when the form takes effect (March 1, 2016) is in the future, so it's not the right form to use now. Although you can see the formulas in Spirit, they can't be prescribed before March 1, 2016. Thank you for all the comments that have come in so far- we've removed the purple box, (replaced by a border) and moved the RD box to the front side of the page- so that when they come in as a fax, they're readable and contain all the necessary information. We've added a place for parent's contact information also. Please send any other comments on the ENPR draft to Jennifer Johnson at jennifer.johnson@alaska.gov. We'll distribute the updated form in next Friday's update.

This week's **Success Story** comes from Kodiak. And it proves that Baby Behavior works!!!

Stephanie Jenkins has been working with this Spanish speaking breastfeeding mother of 4. She has a 2 month old, and then 3 older children. She has been supplementing with formula because of a lack of confidence in her milk supply. After baby would finish nursing and fall asleep, mom would immediately lay baby down in her crib to sleep. Right away baby would wake up crying. Mom assumed this was because baby was not full, so would offer formula. After explaining the two phases of sleep to this mother, and encouraging her to hold her baby for 15-20 minutes after nursing to allow baby to get to the deep sleep phase, things are going much better. This mother is no longer supplementing with formula!! She also has a greater confidence in her milk supply!