

From: [Brakes, Sherry L \(HSS\)](#)
To: [Brakes, Sherry L \(HSS\)](#)
Subject: WIC Friday Update March 18, 2016
Date: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 1:36:33 PM

From: Wayne, Kathleen A (HSS)
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2016 4:13 PM
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; 'Danielle Rybicki' (afdr@uaa.alaska.edu); Olejasz, Aimee M (HSS); Butcher, Clay (HSS)
Subject: WIC March 19 Update in this issue.....ABC Meeting, VacTrack, Food Recall,

Hi Everyone,

I will be out of the office March 21-25 and Dana Kent will be Acting Family Nutrition Programs Manager. Also WIC state offices will be closed on March 28 in observance of Seward's Day.

Have a great weekend.

Kathleen

Success Story

From the Municipality of Anchorage

We had a grandmother come in with one of her grandchildren who are living under her guardianship. The grandmother seemed completely overwhelmed. She had forgotten to bring her paystubs in from the car and became very agitated when told that we could not babysit her children while she went out to collect them. She was very loud about complaining that we were refusing to help her. Our staff explained that we were only refusing to accept responsibility for the children being left unattended while she left the building. Upon her return, she succumbed to her stress and began crying. She was really frustrated that there was judgment from other shoppers and the store staff when she used the WIC vouchers. Our staff person explained that she, too, was a WIC client and understood that frustration. The grandmother then felt safe enough to share her other concerns, which were essentially that the children were not raised to conform to her expectations of behavior. Our staff person responded that they were being very active and she could see how disruptive that could be and how it could create stress. By affirming her concerns, it helped to lift the burden from the grandmother and she was thankful for the referral list so she might find a counselor to help her further.

1. **[Tri-Union Seafoods LLC Issues Precautionary, Voluntary Recall on Select 5 oz. Canned Chunk Light Tuna in Oil and 5 oz. Canned Chuck Light Tuna in Water](#)**

Tri-Union Seafoods LLC is voluntarily recalling a 2,745 cases (equal to 107,280 cans) of Chicken of the Sea brand 5 oz. canned chunk light tuna in oil and 5 oz. canned chunk light tuna in water.

2. **[ENPR information](#)**

We had a question about the new ENPR formulas this week- so I would like to clarify- the three new formulas all need to have a doctor prescribe them. When the ENPR comes into the office completed by the doctor, it then needs an RD to assess and prescribe the formula in Spirit. Please send any questions to me at jennifer.johnson@alaska.gov. I'd also like to hear your comments on this change.

3. **[Inventory update](#)**

We have not received guidance from the USDA about completing depreciation on the Inventory Sheet that was due in February. Please hold off on sending your inventories through GEMS until we hear back from the USDA. If you have questions contact Dana Kent at dana.kent@alaska.gov or 465-5322.

4. **[MOV Surveys](#)**

AIRSA recently sent out surveys to MOV clients along with their food boxes. If you start receiving the MOV surveys back from clients at your local WIC agency; please keep them, tally them, and return the results along with your regular WIC surveys in April, through GEMS. If you have questions contact Dana Kent at dana.kent@alaska.gov or 465-5322.

5. **[SPIRIT](#)**

ACTION REQUIRED

!!! Income screening Starts in April !!!

Attached is the policy for income screening as it relates to Adjunctive Eligibility. Alaska will begin to collect income on adjunctively eligible participants starting April 1st. The approved policy is attached here. Income that is self-declared either verbally or in written form will need to be input into SPIRIT for any participant who is income eligible through adjunctive eligible. Adjunctive eligibility needs to be entered into SPIRIT first before self-declared income is entered. Once the payment frequency and the amount of income is entered into SPIRIT, select "Self-Declaration" in the drop down box as "proof of income". Please have staff start this practice beginning April 1st.

We will discuss this more at the Monthly Teleconference on April 7. If you have questions contact Dana Kent at dana.kent@alaska.gov or 465-5322.

SPiRiT Training: Just a gentle reminder to make sure when you are requesting SPiRiT access for new employees, that the new employee has completed the on-line training prior to the request. Although having simultaneous access to SPiRiT and the on-line training at the same time seems to be logical, what the Help Desk finds is that there is an increased rate of calls and emails for help from new employees that have not completed the training. Additionally new employees can miss critical pieces in the training which causes gaps in knowledge on how to complete functions in SPiRiT later. Thanks for your help with this.

End Of Month (EOM) Ran Successfully

FYI the SPiRiT participation numbers for February are available but may be a little low because EOM ran earlier than normal. The figures will adjust next month to capture any activity that occurred after the report was completed.

6. VacTrAK

VacTrAK requests for new users were submitted today for processing. You will be notified when your access is available in the system. Remember you are responsible for notifying VacTrAK within three days of termination or employment when someone leaves your organization and no longer needs access to the VacTrAK system. Go to: <http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/iz/Pages/vactrak/default.aspx> for the Request to Modify VacTrAK Users form to update or modify your agency's users. If you do not access the system every 30 days you will automatically be removed from the list of users.

Don't forget VacTrAK is an excellent resource to help complete two requirements in WIC: identification of an infant or child and immunization status for children up to age two!

7. ABC Annual Conference

The Alaska Breastfeeding Coalition annual conference is scheduled for April 21 & 22. In the SFY 2016 grant we allowed one person from each WIC agency to attend the conference. If you are interested in sending more than one person to the conference we will allow your agency to do this. Be mindful of having any scheduled village travel days completed (or on target to complete) before using travel funds to send someone to the meeting. There is also a free Friday event called "Red Flags for Breastfeeding Helpers". All attendees must preregister for the free event as space is limited. See flyer for more details. To access the link to register for the event go to the Alaska Breastfeeding Coalition website at: <http://alaskabreastfeeding.org/>.

Nice to Know

1. <http://www.psmag.com/health-and-behavior/the-youngest-casualties-in-the-war-on-obesity>