

From: [Walker, Julie K \(HSS\)](#)  
To: [Walker, Julie K \(HSS\)](#)  
Subject: FW: WIC Update June 17 In this issue.....Jane Heinig, Substance Use Survey, CPA Training topics, New Food List,  
Date: Friday, June 17, 2016 4:08:10 PM  
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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**From:** Wayne, Kathleen A (HSS)  
**Sent:** Friday, June 17, 2016 4:04 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; Walker, Julie K (HSS); Olejasz, Aimee M (HSS); Butcher, Clay (HSS); 'Danielle Rybicki' (afdr@ua.alaska.edu)  
**Subject:** WIC Update June 17 In this issue.....Jane Heinig, Substance Use Survey, CPA Training topics, New Food List,

Hi Everyone,  
This is Sherry Brakes' last day with Family Nutrition Programs. She and her husband are moving south for a warmer dryer climate. Sherry has brought so many improved administrative procedures and systems to our state WIC offices. We will miss her very much. We wish Sherry and her husband a safe move and blessings as they create new beginnings and new memories in their new home.

On a happier note, July Walker has been hired as the Assistant FNP Manager. More information about Julie is provided below.

Hope you all have a great weekend.

Kathleen

1. **Welcome Julie Walker**

Hello WIC Coordinators-- I am so excited to be joining the WIC team! I am a born and raised Alaskan (Petersburg originally and Juneau for the last 5 years) and am grateful for the opportunity to work in promoting health and wellness within our state. I have also lived in Oregon, where I received a Master's in Public Health with an emphasis in Chronic Disease Prevention. My previous work experience includes working at local government health departments, coordinating a statewide domestic violence prevention program, and most recently working as a Research Analyst with the State of Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics. Please be patient with me as I learn my new role and also take on many of the tasks Sherry was in charge of. Thank you and I look forward to working with you all.

2. **Success Story**

From the esteemed Aleutian Pribilof Islands WIC program. This is an interesting case and deserves a later update. This is more a WIC story in progress. A woman that is on WIC with young children is wanting to pump breastmilk for her grandbaby that is coming this summer.

The baby's mother has multiple medical problems and is not a good candidate for Bfing due to the medications she is on. So the Grandmother shared that she is trying to get ready so that she can offer breastmilk to her grandchild.

3. **Grant Update:**

Grant awards may have not been issued for your program yet. It is DHSS Grants & Contracts plan is to start issuing awards next week for those programs that have their funding provided to us by the divisions. If you have questions we will have a quick meeting on Tuesday at 10:00. We will use the 1-800-281-5354 number and code 646725.

4. **Income Guidelines**

Upcoming Income Guidelines for July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017. See attached. Please start using these in your clinics on July 1<sup>st</sup>. SPIRIT will update accordingly.

5. **HR Report on SU- Update**

If your clinic has not been using the Nutrition Education tab for nutrition education the HR Report on Spirit Utilities will not be up to date and a number of clients that have had HR appointments in the past will show up as not having had an HR appointment completed. You cannot back date in this field. So to "clean" up the list enter the Nutrition Education HR subject on the current date, if the client has already received the HR consult. As long as HR has been done it is ok to "clean up" the list by selecting topic (HR) & it will default to the day that the tab is selected. Questions, comments or suggestions contact Dana Kent @ 465-5322 or [dana.kent@alaska.gov](mailto:dana.kent@alaska.gov).

6. **Clinics in your Region-Action Item Due June 24!!**

The Alaska Breastfeeding Coalition is working on a Breastfeeding Infographic for medical practitioners (in honor of World Breastfeeding Week) and would like to know how many clinics are in your area. Please send an estimate of the number of clinics to Dana Kent at [dana.kent@alaska.gov](mailto:dana.kent@alaska.gov) by June 24.

7. **There will be two more Webinars in June with Jane Heinig- ACTION ITEM**

Topic: **Case Studies in Obesity Prevention**

Webinars: **June 22 at 9:30 (Urban) and June 24 at 9:30 (Rural)**- Feel free to attend either.

We want to cover information that is most helpful to you in your ongoing efforts to combat overweight, obesity and improve your clinic's breastfeeding rates (initiation and duration). **Please send us ideas** on your toughest cases or general case questions dealing with these issues. We want to build a webinar format that covers as many case studies as possible. Feel free to send thoughts to [dana.kent@alaska.gov](mailto:dana.kent@alaska.gov). Dates for the Webinars will be announced shortly.

8. **Substance use rack cards**

It's been a few months since your agency received the Substance Use rack cards. Please answer this short survey to help us evaluate the cards. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KFK8325>

9. **CPA Quarterly teleconferences**

We've received a lot of good feedback from the teleconferences- please go onto the forum site if you'd like to make suggestions on future topics. We've set the dates for the next 4 quarterly teleconferences:

August 16  
November 15  
February 7  
May 9

Please contact Jennifer Johnson at 465-8104 with any questions or suggestions.

10. **2016 Food List**

The 2016 Alaska WIC Allowed Food Lists are in transit from the printer and will be distributed to local agencies upon arrival (in about a week). WIC Coordinators - please email Erin Khmelev ([erin.khmelev@alaska.gov](mailto:erin.khmelev@alaska.gov)) or Sandy Harbanuk ([sandra.harbanuk@alaska.gov](mailto:sandra.harbanuk@alaska.gov)) to let the Vendor Management Unit know how many food lists you need - approximately a three to four-month supply. Thank you to all who sent us comments and suggestions for improvement of the food list.

11.



**SPIRIT Tips:**

> **ACTION ITEM:** Please remind your staff and or provide a quick training session on how to search for client in SPIRIT. This past week we saw an extraordinary increased amount of duplicate clients being created. Please note SPIRIT is a living database, therefore, clients created in error cannot be removed or deleted. They remain in the database taking up vital storage space which over time will could cause issues.

> It is highly recommended to do a **STATEWIDE** search by **DOB** for any client first. If required, you may also need to do an additional statewide search on the other demographic criteria to ensure you have located the correct client. If your searches do not find the client and you have reason to believe that the client might have been on WIC in Alaska before, please call the WIC SPIRIT Help Desk and ask them to research the applicant.

• **SPIRIT Help Desk Info:**

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

**Nice to know:**

- Don't forget about the Free Breastfeeding, Substance Abuse and Outreach Resources at WIC Works; includes posters brochures & dvds
- WICWorks Resources - <https://wicworks.fns.usda.gov/publication-order-form>. All you need to do is order them!

