

From: [Wayne, Kathleen A \(HSS\)](#)
To: [HSS DPA WIC Coordinators](#); [Bennis, Don](#)
Cc: [HSS DPA WIC Juneau](#); [HSS DPA WIC Anchorage](#); [Olejasz, Aimee M \(HSS\)](#); [Butcher, Clay \(HSS\)](#); "[Danielle Rybicki](#)" (afdr@uaa.alaska.edu)
Subject: WIC Update September 30 In this issue.....Welcome Jenny, CR Training, Vendor Monitoring, SPIRIT Update, Masimo Machines, PFD, and more
Date: Friday, September 30, 2016 3:45:26 PM
Attachments: [Civil Rights Training 2016.ppt](#)
[PFD_2016.xls](#)
[Alaska Visit Summary.pdf](#)

Hi Everyone,

Welcome to Jenny McAllister, our new Administrative Assistant I. Please look below to find out more about Jenny! I've heard many wonderful comments about last week's WIC Coordinator conference and kudos to Jennifer and all state staff who presented and helped organize the conference.

Have a great weekend.
Kathleen



- Welcome Jenny--** "I'd like to introduce myself. My name is Jenny McAllister. I am our new Admin. Assistant helping with our division in areas needed. I will be answering phones and handling any mail outs to your clinics, so I may get to know you better via email or phone. I have a diverse background that I think should be able to apply very well in this office. Since, I am new to the department and getting my feet wet, I may be inquiring with many questions regarding requests or just chat with you on occasion in how I might better serve you for your community. I grew up in Juneau and lived in Sitka last summer for work and in Petersburg for a winter. I went to school and worked in Seattle and in Southern California (in the Los Angeles area, Palm Springs and San Diego). I look forward to working with you." Jenny's contact information is Jenny.McAllister@alaska.gov or 907-465-3100.
- Vendor Monitoring**
Together we monitored 80 WIC vendors during FFY 2016. That is 50% of our vendors! Great job! Many thanks to all of you who took the time to visit our stores to check in on the experience our clients receive when they redeem their checks. If you have any monitoring paperwork that has not been submitted to John King, please email it to him as soon as possible (john.king@alaska.gov).
- Civil Rights Annual Training:**
As a reminder, all WIC staff are required to receive Civil Rights training annually. Feel free to use the presentation from Fatima's presentation at the Coordinator's Conference to train your staff. Be sure to log the training date and attendees in a training log, which will be checked during management evaluations. If you have any Civil Rights questions or needs, please contact Julie (Julie.walker@alaska.gov or 465-8629).
- Immunization resource:**
We were lucky to have a great speaker on immunizations as they pertain to WIC- and all those great resources at the conference. Here's a recorded immunization webinar designed for WIC staff.
http://www.ecbt.org/index.php/strategies_and_resources/article/education

5. **Education Materials in other languages:** To follow up on our conversation at the conference- here are some links to WIC nutrition education in other languages. Please call Jennifer at 465-8104 with questions and suggestions.

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/wicworks/pages/wiceducationmaterials.aspx>

<http://health.mo.gov/living/families/wic/wiclwip/publications.php>

<https://wicworks.fns.usda.gov/topics-z/non-english-language-materials>

6. **NEW VERSION OF SPIRIT: ACTION ITEM REQUIRED**

Monday Oct 3rd: Roll out of the new SPIRIT version containing the UDSA mandated risk factor changes that were discussed at LA conference last week. As in the past, SPIRIT will automatically update when you log in after this date.

This is a fairly large update so, you may want to stagger the upgrading of your computers by prioritizing which computers need to be updated and put into use first. And as always remember to right click on the "Blue W" and click on "Reset Local Reference Data" after the upgrade is completed.

SPIRIT Help Desk Info:

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

7. **Thank You to the Alaska Breastfeeding Coalition: Action Item**

Please send any pictures of your WBW activities that show the ABC banners from last year to include in a thank you card to ABC for their support of WIC's 2016 WBW activities. As you know, this year ABC provided lunch bags to WIC and breastfeeding Info Graphics to provides across the state. Please send pictures to dana.kent@alaska.gov. Thank you!

8. **PFD: Action Item**

2016 Permanent Fund Dividends this year will be \$1,022. Attached is a table of calculations for you to use when entering PFDs into SPIRIT. If you have questions please contact Dana Kent at 465-5322 or dana.kent@alaska.gov.

9. **Masimo Noninvasive Hemoglobin Machines: Action Item**

Please contact Jenny McAllister at jennifer.mcallister@alaska.gov once you receive your Masimo machines at your clinic. Include the serial number for each machine along with confirmation that you have your machines and tests. Update your WIC inventory with the machines to include the serial numbers and condition. Cost of the machines is estimated at \$2,000 each.

10. **Our breastfeeding images and posters made it national!**

See the link at WIC Works:

https://wicworks.fns.usda.gov/wicworks/Sharing_Center/gallery/family.html

11. **New SNAP Brochures:**

We just received SNAP (Food Stamp) brochures with updated income requirements that take effect October 1, 2016-Sept 30, 2017. We will be mailing these to you next week, but in the meantime please shred or recycle your old SNAP brochures and direct people to the website:

<http://dhss.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/fstamps/default.aspx> Questions? Contact Julie at

Julie.walker@alaska.gov

NICE TO KNOW:

The latest Section of Epidemiology *Bulletin*,

Marijuana Use among Breastfeeding Mothers — Alaska, 2012–2013
September 22, 2016

is now available on the [Alaska Section of Epidemiology website](#) under the headline "Bulletins".

Recommendations on Contraception and Breastfeeding, from CDC

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have released [updated U.S. Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use, 2016](#) in the *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* (MMWR). These recommendations for health care providers provide guidance on the use of specific contraceptive methods by women and men who have certain characteristics or medical conditions, including revisions to the recommendations for postpartum women and women who are breastfeeding.

BREASTFEEDING VIDEOS

Below are four great videos on breastfeeding in Baltimore City, created by the Family League of Baltimore and Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs for [B'more for Healthy Babies](#) with funding from a cooperative agreement with NACCHO and the CDC. Please enjoy and share!

1. Breastfeeding in Baltimore City: <https://youtu.be/HJSv9fSVWkY>
2. Baltimore's Breastfeeding Super Moms: <https://youtu.be/L-exXKWU7vA>
3. Breastfeeding your Baby in Public in Baltimore City: <https://youtu.be/Rw50jMCd16Q>
4. Supporting Breastfeeding Mothers in Baltimore City: <https://youtu.be/AGAmIn9fjz4>

CHAMPS Visit to Alaska

Community and Hospitals Advancing Maternity Practices (CHAMPS) recently visited Alaska to move forward baby friendly hospital initiatives. CHAMPS sites visited ANMC (Anchorage), Norton Sound Regional Hospital (Nome), and Samuel Simmonds Memorial Hospital (Barrow). They will continue to support Alaska's efforts to move towards baby friendly in IHS hospitals around the state. See the summary of their visit attached to this email.

AVAILABLE WEBINARS:

Immunization Webinar for WIC Staff

The *2016 Immunization Webinar for WIC Staff* webinar was archived and is now available on ECBT's website at

www.ecbt.org/index.php/strategies_and_resources/article/immunization_webinar_for_wic_staff

Included is ECBT's downloadable booklet, *Vaccines 101: Information for WIC Staff*.

Please email any questions to: info@ecbt.org

ECBT's Websites: www.ecbt.org and www.VaccinateYourFamily.org

Breastfeeding Webinar

Breastfeeding in the Community: Closing the Care Gap

Webinar 2 - In NACCHO's Public Health Breastfeeding Series



Breastfeeding in the Community: Closing the Care Gap

[Register Now!](#)

Date: Wednesday, October 12, 2016

Time: 2:00 – 3:30 pm ET

This interactive webinar, the second in the *NACCHO Public Health Breastfeeding Series*, will address varying mechanisms that can be used to create a continuum of care to promote and support breastfeeding in underserved communities. Discussing both internal and external care continuity in hospital and community settings, the webinar will also explore how breastfeeding support and promotion services can be integrated into allied public health programs to create sustainable solutions to the care gap. During this session, you will also hear successful stories from Esperanza Health Centers and Contra Costa Health Services, former grantees of the *Reducing Breastfeeding Disparities through Peer and Professional Support* project.

Continuing education for this activity is pending. See final announcement for details.

[Celebrate Whole Grains Month with Brown Rice, 5 Different Ways!](#)

09/27/2016 03:00 PM EDT

Did you know September is Whole Grains Month and National Rice Month? To help you fit whole grains into your menu this week, MyPlate is sharing five, easy-to-prepare recipes with brown rice as the star ingredient. Almost all Americans are not eating enough whole grains. At least half of your grains should be whole grains.