TO: Parent and Sub-Agencies

FROM: Dave Thomason
Nutrition & WIC Services Director

DATE: June 30, 2020

RE: 2021 Nutrition Services Plan Guidance
NEW! How to Video Clips for Clients on Setting Up a wichealth.org Account
BFPC Reports & Budgets
Vendor Monitoring and Training
WIC Advisory Committee – Call for Agenda Items
Label Change for Dannon 32-ounce Containers
Update Equipment in KWIC
Assistance with a Project Developing Food Insecurity Measures
Educational Opportunities

2021 Nutrition Services Plan Guidance

The 2021 Nutrition Services Plan Guidance is much the same as the 2020. Due to a very unusual 2020, there is more latitude on what can be approved for the two 2021 Strategic Action Plans. For 2021, if an agency’s self-assessment shows they continue to need to work on something identified during 2020, they may repeat or continue any Strategic Action Plans that they were unable to complete in 2020 due to the pandemic. Otherwise, LAs will create two new Strategic Action Plans, one for Breastfeeding Promotion and one for Clinic Improvement.

In the Appendix, just as in 2020, several sample Strategic Action Plan objectives and action steps have been provided by the SA. There are two new sample Clinic Improvement Action Plans, one about motivational interviewing and one about life-long healthy living (exit counseling). Example 2.1a is about staff training on and use of motivational interviewing. We are especially excited about LAs using the free access to an online training course on motivational interviewing.
It may be helpful to think about possible budgetary impacts of LA’s Strategic Action Plans. Agencies will be able to revise their budgets later, but by including any expenses in the LA budget (due July 15, 2020), a budget revision may not be necessary.

At this time a new webinar about the writing of the 2021 NSP has not been recorded. The webinar recorded in 2020 is still posted, however, and may be helpful to those new to the NSP process.

The due date for completed 2021 Plans is November 2, 2020 (the 1st is on a Sunday). Please submit your NSP to your ME Team RD, via email. Emails of the three state Nutritionists are listed below. Lisa Medrow, lisa.medrow@ks.gov, Julie Norman, julie.norman@ks.gov, Patrice Thomsen, patrice.thomsen@ks.gov.

**ACTION REQUIRED:** Notify applicable staff regarding the 2021 Nutrition Services Plan Guidance and return completed plans by 11/2/20.

**NEW! How To Video Clips for Clients on Setting Up a wichealth.org Account**
Now wichealth.org has video clips available in English and Spanish that demonstrate how to create a client account.

Here are links for both videos:

Spanish - [https://vimeo.com/424361363/676d7e2538](https://vimeo.com/424361363/676d7e2538)

English - [https://vimeo.com/236439607/e772774c78](https://vimeo.com/236439607/e772774c78)

Feel free to download the videos to use in your waiting room, include on your website or email to clients.

**ACTION REQUIRED:** Share these video links with clients needing instruction on creating a wichealth.org account.

**BFPC Reports & Budgets**
Please submit the BFPC 3rd Quarter Report by July 20, 2020. Please include your Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program Annual Evaluation with your FFY21 budget. Please remember to budget for at least one of these options for annual required BFPC training:

1. **Annual Kansas Breastfeeding Conference**, Oct. 29-30 in Wichita, hosted by the Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition. Registration fee for Thurs., Oct. 29th is estimated to be $120 and includes continuing education for RNs, RDs and lactation support providers. Oct. 30th will focus on community engagement and coalition building. Registration for Friday,
Oct. 30th, will be free. Registration will open in August. **Reminder: the Kansas La Leche League conference has been discontinued.**

2. **Breastfeeding Education courses** – Breastfeeding Basics registration is $110 and includes continuing education for RNs, RDs, and lactation support providers.

**ACTION REQUIRED:** Submit the report to Lisa Medrow at lisa.medrow@ks.gov. Include any training-related expenses in your FFY21 budgets and submit your Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program Annual Evaluation with your budget.

**VENDOR MONITORING AND TRAINING**

A REMINDER: The following counties are in their contract renewal year:


All grocery stores located in these counties will need to participate in a monitoring visit and receive face-to-face training. The training and monitoring will need to be completed and documented in KWIC by **August 1**.

Refer to: http://www.kansaswic.org/manual/VEN_06_00_00_Vendor_Monitoring.pdf and http://www.kansaswic.org/manual/VEN_05_00_00_Vendor_Training.pdf

Monitoring visits will need to be completed for 10% of the stores located in counties not listed above. Local vendor managers do not need to provide face-to-face training for stores in counties not listed above since these stores will receive their required training through the Vendor News. **PLEASE NOTE:** We have received guidance from **Dillons Corporate** that individuals conducting business in their stores must wear a mask or other facial covering.

**ACTION REQUIRED:** If you are in a contract renewal county, please conduct the required face-to-face training and monitoring for all stores in your county. Please enter this information in KWIC by **August 1**. For all other counties, please conduct monitoring visits for 10% of the stores in your county and enter the information into KWIC by **August 1**. **Please remember to forward copies of monitoring paperwork to Lisa Long.** Please wear a mask or other facial covering if you are conducting business in a Dillons store.

**WIC Advisory Committee – Call for Agenda Items**

The next WIC Advisory Committee conference call is Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at 9:00 AM. **Submit agenda items by July 17, 2020 to your WAC representative or Patrice Thomsen.**

Contact Patrice Thomsen with questions at patrice.thomsen@ks.gov.

You can find your representative name and contact information on the **WIC Advisory Committee** page of the Kansas WIC website. As a reminder, questions about policy implementation should be directed to your agency’s assigned state staff member. Alternates are also invited, but may
choose not to attend, unless notified that your Representative will not be attending. Future Conference calls/Facilitators (Facilitator)
- July 28, 2020, Cheryl Goetz
- October 27, 2020, Mookie Holmes
- January 26, 2021, Ladonna Reinert (Change-over mtg for departing and new members.)

**ACTION REQUIRED:** Submit agenda items by July 17, 2020 to your WAC representative or Patrice Thomsen. Contact Patrice Thomsen with questions at patrice.thomsen@ks.gov or 785-296-1189.

**Label Change for Dannon 32-ounce Containers**
Dannon changed their packaging for their 32 oz Whole Milk, Low Fat and Non Fat yogurts. **The ingredients, UPC codes and price did not change.** If the new packaging is not already in stores, it will show up very shortly.

The Kansas WIC Program Booklet does not have graphics for yogurt so there will be no change to it. Pasted here are samples showing the new front panel for plain yogurt, but the change affects all the 32 oz containers. Note the new emphasis on fat level. If you think your clients need full size graphics for client education, contact Patrice Thomsen at Patrice.thomsen@ks.gov

And by the way, here is a link to the Dannon Recipes page that you might like for your clients. Lots of recipes, including for plain and flavored yogurts. For example, Guacamole – Parmesan-Baked Chicken Tenders - Mac and Cheese – all with plain yogurt.

**ACTION REQUIRED:** Notify appropriate staff and inform clients as appropriate.
Update Equipment in KWIC
If you have purchased new computers or other equipment and need Inventory Stickers, please contact your team lead for the needed stickers. Once you receive the stickers, please update the computers and other equipment in KWIC.

ACTION REQUIRED: Share with appropriate staff.

Assistance with a Project Developing Food Insecurity Measures
The Gretchen Swanson Center for Nutrition (www.centerfornutrition.org) is in the early stages of a study seeking to develop new household-level measures to address current measurement gaps related to food insecurity. They are seeking interviews with individuals who are currently experiencing food insecurity, and professionals serving this population. Also, they plan to pilot a draft version of the survey in late 2020/early 2021 and seek individuals experiencing food insecurity to take the pilot survey. All participants and data collection sites will be provided with an incentive/donation as a thank you for their assistance.

ACTION REQUIRED: If interested, please contact Eric Calloway at ecalloway@centerfornutrition.org and/or Katie Stern at kstern@centerfornutrition.org by July 31st 2020.

Educational Opportunities
NEW! 2020 National Maternal Nutrition Intensive Course
July 30-31, 2020 Live Webinar Program $25 per person
OR
September 1-December 31, 2020 Distance Program $25 per person (registration opens July 6)
More information

NEW! August 20, 2020 9:00-10:00am – KS WIC Webinar: The Intersection of Breastfeeding and Safe Infant Sleep
Register Now

NEW! Fluoride Facts for Health Professionals – Facts and Details.
All educational opportunities are now posted to the KS WIC Training Webpage and are updated monthly. See Educational Opportunities – June 2020.

**ACTION REQUIRED:** Share with staff.

If you have any questions regarding this memo, please contact the state staff member assigned to your agency.