

WIC Advisory Committee Minutes

Tuesday, January 25, 2022 9:00 – 11:00 AM
 Facilitator – Mookie Holmes, Wyandotte

9:00 Welcome and Attendance (Facilitator).

Region		Representative		Alternate
Southwest	o	Departing: Yolanda Erives (Seward) New:	o	Departing: Robin Hull (Haskell) New:
Northwest	o	Cheryl Goetz (Gove)	o	Amy Teeter (Gove)
South Central	x	Vicky Wiebe (Butler)		Elgica Ordonez (Barton)
North Central	x	Christy Rogers (Cloud, Clay)	x	Tracy Sabo (Konza Clinic, Junction City)
Southeast	o	Departing: Shera Lyn Schwindt (Lyon) New:	x	Departing: Vicki Brown (Linn) New:
Northeast	x	Departing: Ernestine (Mookie) Holmes (Wyandotte) New:	o	Departing: Ruth Forney (Doniphan) New:
LA NWA Rep	o x	Departing: Trish Hight (Miami) New Tracy Sabo (Konza Clinic, Junction City)		
State Staff	x	Patrice Thomsen	x	Kelly Vickers
State Staff	x	Emily Brinkman	x	Lisa Long
State Staff	x	Linda Speirs	x	Dave Thomason
State Staff	x	Casey Florea	x	Amanda Owsley

9:09 Minutes from the Oct. 27, 2020 conference call were posted to the WIC Advisory page of the website but were not carried over when KDHE moved to the new site. Minutes were attached to the email with this agenda.

9:10 New Member Selection for Calendar Year 2021 - Patrice. Still missing new members. Patrice will contact these agencies but interested in knowing if any of the current members from those regions would be interested in staying on WAC for another 2-year term instead of rotating off (as an offer to

Serve starting CY	North Central	Northeast	South Central	Southeast	Northwest	Southwest
2022		Douglas Jefferson		Montgomery Neosho	Greeley Lane	

those agencies.)

- Northeast – Mookie would stay on as Rep or Alternate
- Southeast – Vicki Brown would stay on as Rep or Alternate

9:15 Revision/Approval of Ground Rules – Attached to the end of this agenda, FYI, but revision/approval will be tabled to the next meeting when we have new members. Patrice Thomsen

9:15 Determine 2021 WAC Meeting Dates and facilitators (and first meeting of 2023). Or just schedule April and do rest at that meeting? Patrice Thomsen. Have been 4th Tuesday, 9:00-11:00 CT of April, July, October, January. Decided to set next, but table setting others to next meeting when new members are on. April 26, 9:00-11:00, Christy Rogers, facilitator.

9:20 Spreadsheet with LA contacts by region for use by WAC members. Updated only annually. Will be sent by the end of February. Patrice Thomsen.

9:21 National WIC Association Report – Trish Hight / Tracy Sabo. Tracy has not received a reply to email to Trish. Patrice will try to contact Trish.

9:30 Program Booklet Revisions – Amanda Owsley

Thinking about separating WIC Approved Food List (WAFL) from the Program Booklet. Doing this gives us much more flexibility to add foods as time goes on because we do not have to reprint the whole booklet. Mobile friendly so could show to clients on a smart phone. Program booklet would include the WIC Shopper App and eWIC card use info. Existing WIC Shopper App brochure is running out – might do a short reprint of it in the meantime to get through until new booklet is ready. If WAC members have suggestions about program booklet content – email Amanda.

Amanda.Owsley@ks.gov

Tracy – Likes idea. Suggest QR code in new booklet to WAFL that could take them to the WAFL. Can we have a page that really stresses that children can on until age 5?

Mookie – good idea. And some don't realize they can be on while pregnant. Or just get on very late while pregnant.

Christy – current program booklet WAFL is missing “cheddar”

9:40 Website Challenges – Dave Thomason

KDHE had a grant that was had a strict deadline so the release timing without an opportunity to review before released was a surprise to us. Other programs also have concerns. We asked to just put up the old site again and that is not possible.

9:45 Pandemic Update – Dave Thomason

As was sent out in mass email to agencies, WIC pandemic waivers now to July 14 (90 days after the public health emergency declaration that was extended to April 14.)

3 stand-alone Bills related to WIC have been introduced in Congress. These Bills would be incorporated into a new Child Nutrition Act that is hopefully going to be renewed this Spring/Summer. If the Child Nutrition Act is not renewed, then we would push to move the stand-alone Bills forward. If all else fails we would push the USDA to consider revising regulations to maximize clinic operational flexibilities regarding remote appointments.

Tracy volunteered to prep a survey for Survey Monkey that the SA can send out to Coordinators about current pandemic services.

Suggestion from Mookie – SA prep a participant survey

Per Dave – NWA has done an agency and a participant survey

- A survey using KWIC functionality – has to be read to client by staff and no easy statewide results because was designed for LA use.
- Survey in WIC Shopper app (link to Survey Monkey).
- QR code – could text QR code, or have it available to participants, etc.

10:00 Fruit/Vegetable Cash Value Benefit (CVB) – Dave Thomason. Any feedback or issues reported by clients?

Tracy – some clients have reported that self-checkout is better for f/v. Multiple reports from clients when going through checkers, lots of f/v don't scan and checker says that the client has to talk to WIC to resolve any problems. Per Dave – if it is f/v – the issue is that the UPC or PLU is not in the WIC

system. Someone must submit the codes to the state. If it is a mapping issue, then the store must fix the problem. There is no automated solution. UPS must be entered individually.

Christy – Clients in their area would really like frozen f/v. Codes were stay more consistent so scanning less of a problem and especially in winter when there is less fresh stocked. Per Dave – adding frozen to the Kansas List is on our to-do list of things to consider, and possibly canned also. Getting this done is a capacity issue with SA staffing and other projects at the State Agency.

Mookie – great idea to add choice of frozen and canned back.

10:05 Formula Shortages? Patrice Thomsen

Tracy has not heard of any local problems since their Neosure problem before Christmas. Have not heard back for this month

Casey – yesterday Barton – Can't get Pediasure with fiber; Alimentum – but were able to find one town over.

Butler Pediasure – client said she called “every store within a hundred mile radius” – Patrice will call Vicky later.

Johnson has notified Patrice that they are having to help clients by calling around to a lot of stores.

Patrice will be contacting Abbott, especially about Pediasure.

10:15 Director's Update, including KWIC – Dave Thomason

Staffing:

Ashley Waldo – last day was January 21. (she was one of the Vendor Managers) The position will be posted soon – seeking applicants.

State Agency is working to add new (third) vendor Manager and is in the process of posting to fill the two vacant nutritionist positions.

The Multi-State Consortium including the Kansas State Agency is going to contract with Maximus to be program manager for KWIC and then will fill the vacant State agency position (had been Ashley Warren) that will work more with data, and less with KWIC program management.

WIC/SNAP data matching project – Dave and Amanda – almost done – more than likely by late spring. On a daily basis – list of women and children on SNAP who are NOT on WIC. (Won't know if woman is pregnant or not.) Amanda is working on guidance, but agencies will be able to contact the woman to try to enroll the family in WIC. SNAP will get a similar list of WIC clients not on SNAP.

Tracy – has worked with local DCF and thinks those local staff do not know. Working with DCF to see if they can use IRIS for referrals back and forth. Per Dave – they will soon know because Geary is one of the focus areas. Per Amanda – there will be a grant funded benefits navigator position at “Delivering Change” and after the grant is over will see how to keep funding the position.

10:30 Round Table Discussion –All.

Mookie – Can the “face-to-face” vendor training be virtual?

Answer: Per Lisa Long - Required to be interactive so yes, can be virtual as long as the store staff can ask questions and get answers during the training.

Tracy – From Zooming with Coordinators meeting 2 weeks ago– some agencies are short staffed. Tracy has some staff time that they could help out. SA will discuss this briefly and LAs should suggest implementing a partnership and the SA will respond at that time. Partnering has occurred in the past. Details will need to be worked out.

Christy – From a BFPC meeting – wondered about the situation with the Designated BF Expert and that BFPC cannot be IBCLC. Unclear if the SA wanted BFPC to train and move into the DBE role or stay as peer counselor. Christy had questions about paying for classes if working toward IBCLC. SA will follow up with Christy.

Answer: Contact Casey with questions. DBE policy is still being developed. Per Casey – 90 hours lactation training could be paid by WIC, with signing agreement that they will staff with WIC for specific amount of time. Also, may be different financial decision if the BFPC has a degree and a lot of the 90 hours are covered versus a BFPC who has no college credit and would be starting from scratch.

Reminder of Future Conference calls/Facilitators (Facilitator)

- April 26, 9:00 – 11:00. Christy Rogers

Adjourn by 11:00 (Facilitator)

WIC Advisory Committee

Ground Rules

The purpose of the WIC Advisory Committee is to provide the State Agency with Local Agency and client input and recommendations on proposed, new, or revised policies and procedures. Questions about policy and procedure implementation should be directed to the State Agency, rather than to the WAC (ADM 09.00.00).

In order to maintain good order, we agree to the following ground rules:

- Be on time and actively participate in meetings
- Establish and adhere to meeting time frames
- Listen and respect opinions and ideas of others
- No side conversations, only 1 person speaks at a time
- Provide honest and open feedback--All comments, questions and ideas are valuable
- Maintain confidentiality
- Speak for your region, participants or the group you represent
- Keep discussions focused on the issue presented
- Disagreements are expected, but dealt with in the meeting
- Support decisions of the group once made
- As much as possible, submit items for the agenda rather than waiting to bring up in the Round Table.
- As indicated in policy ADM 09.00.00, the meeting may be cancelled if there are no agenda items submitted by 2 weeks in advance of the scheduled date.
- Be sure phones are muted. (If no Mute button, use Mute *69 and Unmute #69.)
- Have Fun.

Revised 1/2021