

WIC Advisory Committee Agenda – Zoom meeting
 Tuesday, April 26, 2022 9:00 – 11:00 AM
 Facilitator – Christy Rogers, Cloud County

9:00 Welcome and Attendance (Facilitator).

Region		Representative		Alternate
Southwest	x	Yolanda Erives (Seward)		New:
Northwest	x	Cheryl Goetz (Gove)	o	Amy Teeter (Gove)
South Central	x	Vicky Wiebe (Butler)	o	Elgica Ordonez (Barton)
North Central	x	Christy Rogers (Cloud, Clay)		New:
Southeast	x	Vicki Brown (Linn)		New:
Northeast	x	Ernestine (Mookie) Holmes (Wyandotte)		New:
LA NWA Rep	x	Tracy Sabo (Konza Clinic, Junction City)		
State Staff	x	David Thomsen	x	Patrice Thomsen
State Staff	x	Linda Speirs	x	Bethany Hirsch
State Staff	x	Emily Brinkman	x	Amanda Owsley
State Staff	x	Kelly Vickers	x	Casey Florea

9:05 Introduction of new State Agency staff member – Bethany Hirsch. Our newest Vendor Manager, filling the position vacating by Ashley Waldo. Main tasks are related to the food delivery area. Bethany grew up in Upstate New York and moved to Kansas 6 years ago. She recently worked as an assistant manager at Hobby Lobby and has a Master’s degree in Marriage and Family Therapy with a part-time private practice.

9:09 Minutes from the January 25,2021 Zoom meeting were posted to the WIC Advisory page of the website. <https://www.kdhe.ks.gov/1247/WIC-Advisory-Committee> .

9:10 New Member Selection for Calendar Year 2022 - Patrice. Yolanda agreed to continue as Southwest Rep. Vicki Brown agreed to move from Southeast Alternate to Rep. Mookie agreed to continue as Northeast rep. Patrice is still working on getting people to fill the Alternate spots for those, and for the North Central Alternate now that Tracy is the NWA position.

9:15 Determine rest of 2022 WAC Meeting Dates and facilitators (and first meeting of 2023). Patrice Thomsen. Have been 4th Tuesday, 9:00-11:00 CT of July, October, January. Discussion about shortening but will leave 2 hours.

- July 26, 2022 Facilitator Cheryl Goetz
- October 25, 2022 / Facilitator Tracy Sabo
- January 24, 2023 / Facilitator Mookie Holmes

9:20 National WIC Association Report – Tracy Sabo. There has been one Mountain Plains Region LA rep call since Tracy started. Most of the discussion on that call was what the various local agencies are doing related to remote and on-site services. Tracy’s clinic has been doing a hybrid version with many clients – having them come before the appointment for measures and hemoglobin. Clients seem to be okay with coming in for that. (Led to more general discussion of how that works in Kansas. If we’re supposed to get the Rights and Responsibilities document signed before taking a

hemoglobin test, which was the historical guidance in Kansas. Then if actually do cert a few days later, would have to get again on the same day. Staff pointed out that if start the Cert Guide when a client could still get more benefits for the ending cert period, can no longer issue those benefits and must finish cert to issue more benefits. All good information for the State Staff to consider as putting together any guidance.

9:30 USDA Breastfeeding Training – Emily Brinkman. A lot of local staff completed the full breastfeeding training in virtual sessions conducted by Cathy Carothers. For staff who still need to do the BF training, watch for more info in the April I-Memo. The State Agency is working with the Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition to present the training for the remainder of the Kansas staff during the latter part of 2022. Then will move into “maintenance” mode for new employees in 2023. Some things made clear in the I-Memo.

- Staff will need to register individually – not one registration for a group in a conference room.
- Some of the Levels are broken into multiple sessions. Staff will be asked to register for the the same time frame session.
- Level 4 Designated BF Expert training – divided into 1 virtual session and 1 live session in Wichita October 12, the day prior to the KBC conference.

9:40 Formula Shortages? - Patrice Thomsen. In trying to accommodate some shortage requests, RTF and Liquid concentrate Isomil were added to breastfeeding food packages and Neosure in a larger size was added to all infant food packages with formula and Child 12-24 months. Trying to have CQuest back date so staff could use Modify benefits-Reissue Formula ended up not being totally successful. The formulas will be available going forward, and available for some FUD dates in the past but not necessarily all. Patrice apologizes for the confusion. There will be a mass email.

Reporting on shortages around the state: Shortages continue, but Similac Advance seems to be coming in good supply. Christy Rogers: PurAmino not in stores for their client. All: Sim Sensitive and possible alternates. Some reporting clients wanting those are switching to Similac Advance. Mookie: KC stores reporting that seems the stores are “battling” each other as to who gets formula from the warehouse. 1 store might get a lot, then the warehouse send a very little to other stores. Cheryl: Hays WalMart seems to have a good supply of RTF and clients have been able to get. Yolanda-Liberal – low on everything except Advance. Eligca, Great Bend – Both Nutramigen and Sensitive shortages. Clients checking daily in some cases. Tracy, Junction City – Alimentum still low. SIA from dr with two options, with note “depending on availability”. One client driving to Topeka to get right size.

9:45 WIC Farmer’s Market – Question from LA about grant opportunity. Answer from Dave Thomason and opportunity for questions. “Unfortunately, Kansas is not able to apply for this grant opportunity because Kansas does not operate the WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program. I have attended several meetings and have expresses Kansas’ support for modernizing the FMNP. We will let the other states that already have the program do the work and Kansas will be able to benefit from that work. Once Farmers and Markets are able to process WIC transactions using the EBT card. Kansas will move forward with developing a State Plan and submitting it for USDA approval to bring the WIC FMNP to Kansas. In the short term, when farmers and markets are able to process WIC transactions using the EBT card, Kansas WIC can move forward with allowing current WIC participants to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables using their regular WIC Cash Value Benefit (CVB). Allowing these purchases does not require Kansas to have the full FMNP. We’ll keep everyone posted as to the progress of the modernization process.” Tracy – Junction City had a grant several years ago to upgrade the EBT process at their Farmer’s Market.

9:50 Online Kansas WIC Pre-Application – Dave Thomason
Getting ready to release within a month. There will be a training powerpoint sent out for staff.

Each clinic will need to identify one person to periodically go into the Online Pre-Application and check, then contact the person. Really meant for new clients. System will do a dual participation check, but staff would still need to look in KWIC. Won't stop existing clients from completing. Staff would NOT tell someone who calls the office to go out and complete the Pre-application. Part of process is that we are needing to rename the clinic that do not start with the county name so all starts with county name. Affected clinics will be contacted. Our consortium members already using this Pre-Application (New Hampshire, Hawaii, Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA)

- 10:05 Director's Update, including Pandemic and KWIC** – Dave Thomason
Emergency extended so WIC's waivers extended out to mid-October.
Christy – Did we do the survey discussed in last WAC meeting? A: No.

KWIC: System maintenance contract re-let. Changing contractors to CDP (Custom Data Processors) July 1. We're in transition time. They do many other WIC programs. Will be the first time they are using our system.

10:25 Round Table Discussion –All.

- Appointment Summary Report – The version with this release is not user-friendly. Can we go back?
 - Main thing missing is having a separate line for each client, with their category and appt type. Will send Dave and Kelly screen shot
 - Excel Export – missing phone number
- Mookie – Food Quantity Report
- Dave - Equipment like signature pad, card reader, etc. State is moving to have local agencies order those too. (If have items at clinic that work, but no longer are being used, please send them to SA.)
- Tracy – eWIC cards – not in numerical order? Answer from Dave – it is because of the last digit (security check digit). If take off the last digit, they are sequential.
- Vacant state positions – getting read to post RD positions, data and system management position, and adding another state vendor manager position.
- Dave – Encourage all to read NWA emails. NWA “office hours” on Tuesdays that you can listen in. Published in the Monday Morning Report. Several proposed changes
 - That Board be made up of half state and have local agencies (now 4 SA to 1 LA).
 - Increasing number of votes allowed for LA.
 - Increasing sections to add Breastfeeding and Local Vendor
- Amanda Owsley – WIC-SNAP data matching project. Will be able to provide WIC LA with names of WIC clients not on SNAP. (WIC clients know WIC staff, not SNAP employees.) SNAP staff will have the names of clients on SNAP, but not on WIC for them to encourage them to apply for WIC. Funded outside of WIC. Pilot project in Geary County pays for a Navigator position.
- Staff going to annual NWA –
 - SA – Dave Thomason, Patrice Thomsen
 - Wyandotte – Mookie Holmes, Ashley Lause
 - Geary-Konza – Tracy Sabo
- Revised Program Booklet – Amanda. As discussed last meeting, taking food list out. Send Amanda Owsley any comments.

Reminder of Future Conference calls/Facilitators (Facilitator)

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- October 25, 2022 / Facilitator Tracy Sabo
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Adjourn (Facilitator)