WIC Local Agency Conference Call

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2025, 8:30-9:30 AM

Agenda and Summary Notes

Agenda items:

- Continuing resolution and USDA appointments - Kate
- Final reimbursements – Kate/Tammie
- WIC Local Agency Portal – Tami/Marcia

Continuing resolution and USDA appointments - Kate

- Current continuing resolution - The continuing resolution passed in December funds the federal government through March 14, 2025. Minnesota WIC has received FFY 2025 second quarter funding to take us through second quarter.

- USDA Trump Administration Appointments

    - Secretary of Agriculture – Brooke Rollins
    - Deputy Secretary of Agriculture - Stephen Alexander Vaden
    - Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services – oversees Food and Nutrition Services, including WIC – no appointment made yet

Final reimbursements – Kate/Tammie

We are very close to closing out the WIC grant for FFY 2024. Close out must occur by the first week in February. We wanted to share some preliminary information about the final payments this year. We had $1,103,348 for the WIC grant final payments this year. These are payments for unreimbursed WIC Program expenses. This is about half of what we had for the final payment in FFY 2023 ($2,331,533). MDH WIC provided $2.5 million in supplemental WIC grant funding last summer after we received additional NSA funds from USDA. The final payment notices and payments will be made end of January/early February.

WIC Local Agency Portal – Tami/Marcia

Tami shared – We are close to rolling out the WIC Local Agency Portal. This is a SharePoint site that will require individual log-ins. The SharePoint site will contain forms that are specific to Local Agency staff that are currently on the public website as well and reports that include small numbers and private data. Over the next few weeks access will be given to agency coordinators and breastfeeding coordinators as a start. We will let you know when you can request additional users. Watch the Thursday emails for more information.

Marcia shared – The Local Agency Portal (LAP) will include many data reports similar to those currently found on the public website. However, the LAP versions will include small numbers and identifiable data, similar to what is available in Infoview. For sharing outside of WIC, the reports on the public website are preferred as they use deidentified data. The LAP reports will provide data for smaller

agencies that is suppressed on the public pages, while larger agencies will benefit from the ability to look at data monthly as well as yearly. In addition to reporting by county of CHB, like the public versions, many of the LAP reports can also report by agency or grantee.

Some of the interactive dashboards require a sign-in to the MDH Tableau server before displaying. The user ID for Tableau will be the same email address used to access Sharepoint. Users can set their own password using the 'forgot password?' option. Once signed in, all interactive content is available for the rest of the browser session.

Questions & Answers

Will it be an agency log-in or an individual login-in? (Local Agency Portal)
All log-ins are individual since the site contains private data.

Will there no longer be data and reports on the public website?
There will continue to be annual and aggregate reports available on the public website.

We have a county SharePoint – is it the same thing?
If you use Sharepoint in connection to other work you do with other MDH programs, such as OSHII or Family Home Visiting, you will use your existing Sharepoint access with our new Sharepoint pages. The WIC Connections page will be added to the options you'll see listed when you log in.

Will reports be available by agency or county?
How the reports can be run will vary by the report. However, many are available by both agency and county.

Will Infoview go away?
No, Infoview will not go away. Infoview still provides on demand reports. The purpose of these new dashboards is to provide the annual summary data we were previously posting in Infoview to allow ease of running and looking across time.

How will this work with Tribes?
Since this is not a public site and only WIC staff will have access, just like in Infoview Tribal partners will be able to access their information just like any other agency.

When is the first WINNIE update planned to address some of the bugs?
The first WINNIE release is tentatively scheduled for mid to late April. We just finished testing a release and are waiting for a corrective patch and then we will be able to create a schedule. There are many bugs fixed in the release, watch for the release document for those to be identified.

Will there be changes to the scheduler with fixes?
Watch for the release notes for specific bugs. Gainwell did indicate that there are performance fixes included for the scheduler.

When will the video that showed the WIC app updates going to be available to share with our local agency staff?
We are hoping to have it available in the next week. We are working with MDH communications to go through the process to get it posted on YouTube.

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