

# Meeting Minutes

**Subject: Retailer Advisory Call**

**Date: April 19, 2018**

**Time: 10:00 AM**

The conference call was held on April 19, 2018 and began at 10:00 AM. Organizations in attendance via telephone or in person were: Defense Commissary Agency, Food Lion, Giant, Ingles, Kroger, Martins, Megamart, Save-A-Lot, Shop-And-Save, Shoppers Foods, Todo's, WIPRO, and the Virginia WIC Office (Dr. Mandeep Virk-Baker, Paula Garrett, Alex Acharya, Bob Altermatt, Al Astley, Freda Bolling, Ephraim Ewing, Amy Romero, Jennifer Trower & Brian Tun).

Mandeep Virk-Baker (Director, Division of Community Nutrition) provided the Division Update

The Federal Budget: A Continuing Resolution has been passed that provides WIC funding through the current federal fiscal year that ends on 9/30/2018.

Paula Garrett (WIC Program Manager) provided an update of the WIC program:

New Food List: All retailers should now have the new food list and all of the new items should be available for sale via eWIC. The WIC participants will be receiving the new food list at their next clinic appointment, so all participants should have their new food list in 6/30/2018.

Alex Acharya (WIC Vendor Compliance Manager) provided an update of the Vendor Compliance Team:

1. Certified Trainers: Training for new Certified Trainers will be held May 23-24, 2018. Registrations will be accepted until May 11, 2018.
2. Email Notification: Mass emails from the State WIC Office are now going out via MailChimp. According to MailChimp, there are many emails that don't appear to have been opened; however this may not be totally accurate due to emails being "previewed" and not opened, corporate firewalls blocking the notification, etc. If you are not receiving emails from the State WIC Office, such as the Retailer eBulletin distributed on 3/8/2018, please let us know.
3. Spanish Version of the Cashier Training video: Based on retailer requests, we will explore the costs and options for producing some sort of Spanish language version of this video.

Al Astley (Vendor Liaison) reported that some of the usual attendees at this call were unable to call in today due to a conflicting meeting with the Tennessee WIC Office, who is in the final stages of rolling out eWIC. For the last 1.5 years, our meeting has been held almost always on the third Thursday of the first month of each Quarter. Base on a quick poll of the attendees, there was no desire to change the date of the meeting.

The meeting ended at 10:22 AM

Required Actions: Alex will pursue the Spanish Language Cashier Training video.

Next meeting: Thursday July 19, 2018 at 10:00 AM (alternate date July 26, 2018). Minutes of this meeting will be distributed with the "Save the Date" email for our next meeting.