

Retailer Advisory Meeting Minutes

Date: July 22, 2021

Time: 2:00 PM

Location: Conference call

State WIC Office Attendees: Paula Garrett, Megan Nason, Alex Acharya, Bob Altermatt, Brian Tun, Jennifer Trower, and Amy Romero. Facilitator: Amy Romero

Recorder: Bob Altermatt

- The meeting began at 2:00pm
- **Paula Garrett** (WIC Director) provided an update for the WIC division
 - Participant count remains steady
 - Federal public health emergency was extended
- **Megan Nason** (Program Manager) provided an update for the program
 - Because of the public health emergency extension, our waivers are extended, including food options and operating clinics remotely
 - CVB increase is slated to end September 30. Data shows an increase in redemption.
- **Alex Acharya** (Vendor Team Manager) provided an update for the vendor team
 - The 2022 food list application will be coming out soon. Submissions for new foods will be accepted through the end of July.
 - Annual training is due soon; notifications were emailed and also includes a link to the annual compliance letter. If you did not receive the email, make sure you email Alex. (Alex.Acharya@vdh.virginia.gov)
 - Undercover buys (compliance buys) resume this month
 - The new retailer manual is online, and a hard copy will be printed and mailed to each store
- **Miscellaneous**, open to all
 - Questions from retailers: Issues with redeeming WIC from one store – please always let your liaison know if you have similar issues so we can help you resolve them
 - Amy asked the group how they would feel about moving this meeting to a google meet; please email someone on the vendor team to let us know what you think about that as an option
 - Email us at WIC_retailer@vdh.virginia.gov if you have any questions you didn't get to ask – or if you need to be added to our email list to receive information about the RAM calls in the future.
 - Remember the retailer webpage is here: www.virginiawicretailers.com
- **The Date for the Next Meeting is October 21, 2021 at 2:00pm**