



Virginia WIC Retailer Advisory Meeting Minutes

Date: October 20, 2022

Time: 2:00 PM

Location: webex

State WIC Office Attendees: Megan Nason, Alex Acharya, Brian Tun, Jennifer Trower, and Amy Romero.

Facilitator: Amy Romero

Recorder: Brian Tun

- The meeting began at 2:00pm
- **Megan Nason** (Program Manager) provided an update for the WIC Division
 - The President signed the continuing resolution to extend the funding for the federal government through December 16, 2022 that includes WIC program funding through USDA. It is anticipated that the WIC program will continue to be funded through the end of December. Congress will be set to vote another continuing resolution or finalize the budget before end of this year.
 - The National Public Health Emergency Declaration has been extended again through January 11, 2023. All of the WIC waivers tied to the public health emergency declaration will continue to stay until mid-April 2023.
 - Cash Value Benefits (CVB): As of October 1, 2022, CVB has increased to \$25/month among children, \$44/month for pregnant and post-partum women and \$49/month for breast feeding women until the end of September 2023. Food packages have also been updated to reflect these changes.
 - Infant Formulas Shortage Issue: The issues with inventory and shortages seem to be better. Abbott has discontinued production of powdered Similac Spit Up. As a result, we stopped accepting the new prescriptions for this product but the substitute formulas for Similac Spit Up will continue to be accepted through November 30, 2022.
 - All other sub formulas will be accepted through December 31st, 2022.
- **Alex Acharya** (Vendor Team Manager) provided an update for the vendor team
 - Changes to UPCs – If UPCs are changed, updated or removed, please make sure to notify Brian – brian.tun@vdh.virginia.gov
 - New Food List - New Food Lists have been mailed out to all retail stores directly. If you did not receive them, please let us know.
 - The food list can be found here: <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/wic-retailers/2022-wic-food-list/>
 - Order additional copies if needed by submitting a supply request here: <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/wic-retailers/retailer-supply-request-form/>
 - Please destroy old food lists if you still have them.
 - New foods that were added to the new food list (and required shelf labels):

- **Fruits and Vegetables** - Any container size including a single serving size is allowed for fruits and vegetables. (fresh, frozen and canned)
- **Infant foods** (fruits/vegetables or combination) and meats - Organic infant foods and infant meats are allowed. 2 oz. or 4 oz. multi-packs infant foods and 2.5 oz. multi-packs infant meats are allowed.
- **Infant Cereal** - Organic infant cereals are allowed.
- **Peanut Butter** - Natural peanut butter is allowed.
- **Eggs** - Any size white or brown eggs are allowed. (Medium, large, extra-large or jumbo)
- **Yogurt** – Greek yogurt is allowed in vanilla & plain flavors.
- **Hot Breakfast Cereals** - Instant grits original hot cereals 11.8 oz. or larger are allowed.
- **Cheese** - Mozzarella string cheese 16 oz. is allowed.

ITEMS IN RED HAVE A MANDATORY WIC SHELF LABEL REQUIREMENT

- **Miscellaneous**, open to all
 - Reminder to let Amy Romero know of any changes to who should receive these meeting invitations
- **The Date for the Next Meeting is January 19, 2023 at 2:00pm**