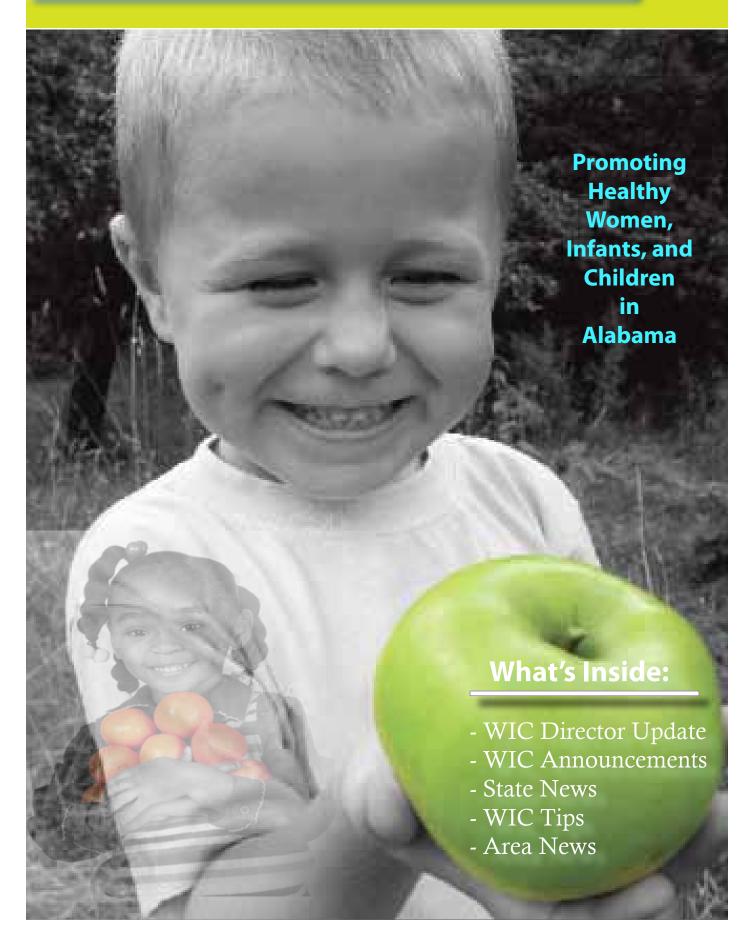


Volume No: 16



WIC Central Office News



Carolyn Battle
DIRECTOR

ALABAMA
STATE WIC PROGRAM

What a difference a year can make! You will hear all about the many exciting and challenging activities and work being done at the local, area, and state level in the Alabama WIC Program throughout the pages of this newsletter. Everyone is working diligently in the counties, areas, and state office to provide quality nutrition services to our WIC participants and to reach out and serve more eligible families.

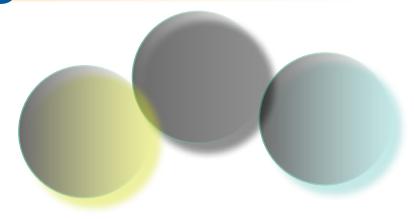
I want to send out a big THANK YOU! for the tremendous efforts and work done by staff at the local, area, and state level to increase outreach and caseload. The Outreach Campaign and activities that were carried out during the past 6 to 9 months resulted in an increase of more than 6,000 participants during FY 2010 with an all time high caseload of 150,465 in August 2010. This is the first time the Alabama WIC Program has ever had a caseload of over 150,000. It is good to know that the WIC Program is helping more Alabama families with achieving healthier eating habits by providing nutritious foods, nutrition education, and breastfeeding promotion and support.

At the State WIC Office, we are excited about the progress that has been made on the State Agency Model (SAM) Crossroads Consortium project to build a new web-based WIC computer system. A significant milestone was reached in June 2010 when we completed the design phase of the project. Read more about this in the Operations Branch section.

There is some great news in this newsletter about what is going on at the local, area, and state level. Because of each and every one of you, the Alabama WIC Program is the best! I thank you for all your hard work.

WIC Toll-Free Number1-888-WIC-HOPE 1-888-942-4673

State WIC Announcements



- * Annual WIC Training Conference is to be held the afternoon of October 21 and the morning of October 22, 2010, at Auburn University Montgomery Campus. It will be situated in Goodwyn Hall and the Taylor Center, Rooms 221-223. The conference has been approved for county, area, and state clerical staff, nutritionists, nurses, and administrators who work with the WIC Program.
- * The Alabama WIC Nutrition Education/Breastfeeding Training is available at adph.org/alphtn under Featured Projects. This is required training for all nutritionists, nutrition associates, and nurses working in WIC and must be completed before the program expires on December 31, 2010.

WIC Toll-Free Number 1-888-WIC-HOPE 1-888-942-4673



NUTRITION SERVICES Jean Fulton, Director

The WIC Nutrition Services staff welcomes Alexis Aday as the new Breast-feeding Peer Counselor Coordinator.

Alexis is a registered dietitian who joined us after several years with Capitol Hill Healthcare and Rehab First facility as the Director of Clinical Nutrition and Dietary Services. Her previous experience as WIC Coordinator at the Montgomery County Health Department gives her unique insight into working with clinics to ensure success of the Peer Counseling Program.

We also are pleased to announce that Chauntye' Williams, ASA II, is in the administrative support position for assisting the nutrition staff. Chauntye' transferred to the State WIC Office from the State Lab. Her varied responsibilities include fulfilling the breastfeeding supply orders submitted by the clinics and coordinating mail-outs from the nutrition staff. We are excited to have Alexis and Chauntye' with us!

This is a great opportunity to acknowledge and praise the efforts of the WIC Nutrition Services staff. Gail Mask and Michell Grainger are working diligently to provide new education and breast-feeding materials and incentive items to support interaction with participants. Mandy Darlington is responsible for the WIC media campaign including two TV commercials which also are shown in movie theaters; four billboard designs;

newspaper ads; and radio "spots". This is the first comprehensive media campaign for the Alabama WIC Program! In addition, she created VENA Views to support our on-going VENA training. Twanna Brown provides comprehensive and refresher training for WIC employees while serving as administrator of the Eastbrook Training Clinic. Our training clinic is one of only a few such "handson" WIC training facilities in the country. Pat Vick monitors clinics for quality assurance and lets us know how well our clinics are performing. She especially enjoys visiting each clinic and interacting with the staff. Roshanda Gaddis is the WIC Coordinator/Provider for the Training Clinic and assists with "hands on" training for nutritionists and nurses attending WIC training. Roshanda also works on special projects as needed. Alexis Aday is coordinating the expansion of the Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program across the state. This includes training the newly hired peer counselors and supporting the peer counselor coordinators in the clinics. What an accomplished staff!

Nutrition Education - Gail Mask

Beginning this October, WIC nutritioiists and nurses will focus on increasing participants' awareness of the

WIC Toll-Free Number1-888-WIC-HOPE 1-888-942-4673 WIC Website: www.adph.org/wic importance of eating more fruits and vegetables. This is part of the new FY 2011- FY 2012, Area Nutrition Education Plan, *Increasing Fruit and Vegetable Consumption Among WIC Women and Children in Alabama*. The following new fruit and vegetable posters, table tents and handouts will be coming to clinics this October - November in support of this effort:

Four Seasons Posters (English & Spanish)
Fall

Winter Spring Summer

Table Tents (Bilingual)
Control Your Weight
Dont' Forget Fruits and Veggies for
Smart Snacking!
Don't Forget the Most Important Rule:
Set a Good Example!
Fight Disease

Handouts (Bilingual)
WIC-480/480S Munching Matters - the
Secret to Smart Snacking
WIC-481/481S Moms & Dads
WIC-482/482S Ten Facts about Fruits &
Vegetables

WIC-483/483S Ten Safety Tips for Handling Raw Fruits & Vegetables





NUTRITION SERVICES (cont.) Jean Fulton, Director

Breastfeeding - Michell Grainger/Alexis Aday

The WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program continues to expand throughout the state. We are excited to announce the addition of the following sites: Etowah, Houston, Lowndes, Montgomery, and Tuscaloosa. Baldwin, Colbert, Jefferson, and Morgan will start programs soon. The Peer Counselor Program allows the opportunity to offer basic breastfeeding education to WIC moms while providing extra encouragement and support to those choosing to breastfeed. Thank you for all your hard work. We look forward to the continued expansion.

VENA/Outreach - Mandy Darlington

One of the goals for the Alabama WIC program in 2010 was to serve more eligible families. About 30 outreach workers statewide have been working very hard to spread the message about what WIC can do for families in their local communities, organizations, schools, businesses, and healthcare facilities.

Also, in August and September, a large media campaign promoted a similar message of how WIC helps provide women, infants, and children with "Healthy Foods for a Healthy Future." The advertisement for this campaign included commercials that aired statewide on five major television networks, nine cable networks, and at 22 movie theaters. Commercials also aired on nine different radio stations in Alabama. Advertisements were placed in over 130 local newspaper and magazines and on 185 highway billboards all across the state. Montgomery and Birmingham even put WIC advertisement on cars, city buses, and vans.

The 2010 outreach efforts helped Alabama reach an all time high for participation this summer, and it could not have been done without the diligent work of the entire WIC staff, both in the clinics and out in the community. Thank you, WIC staff, for always providing nutrition education and breastfeeding support in order to help grow a healthier Alabama.....one family at a time!









W9C Outreach Billboards created by Mandy Darlington, Alabama State W9C Outreach Coordinator for new advertisement campaign

WIC Training - Twanna Brown

WIC Comprehensive training is being conducted at the Training Center on a continuous basis. Attendees receive training in certification procedures, reports, income assessment, breastfeeding, nutrition education, quality assurance and all other areas of the WIC Program. It is two to three days of training that includes classroom discussions, hands-on in the clinic, and PHALCON training. If you are interested in attending, contact your Area Nutrition Director.



VENDOR MANAGEMENT Stacey Neumann, Director

This past year the WIC Vendor Management Branch have worked hard to ensure compliance with federal regulations. During 2010, there were over 740 authorized vendors participating in the Alabama WIC Program.

Since the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) implementation of cost containment requirements, Alabama has worked hard to ensure cost neutrality. The cost containment measures were implemented several years ago to contain costs of the WIC Program nationwide. During 2010, an administrative rules change occurred to ensure that the Alabama WIC Program is in compliance with Alabama's cost containment plan. Barbara Mack and Susan Ward do a wonderful job of ensuring all federal reporting requirements regarding cost containment are met.

Kathy Law worked hard throughout the year processing new vendor applications and ensuring area and local staff had materials that they needed to conduct vendor training. Kathy also ensured that documentation of training was received and filed.

Patty Geiger did an exceptional job of communicating with the Vendors throughout the year regarding a variety of topics ranging from authorized WIC products to returned food instruments and cash value vouchers. Maxine Hawthorne assists Patty in processing returned food instruments and cash value vouchers ensuring payments are made to vendors.

The Compliance unit worked diligently to ensure vendors are in compliance with their Alabama WIC vendor contract, State administrative rules, and federal regulations. They conducted preauthorization site visits, store monitoring visits, and compliance buy investigations across the state.

The Special Investigators wrote numerous warnings and issued fines for violations ranging from providing unauthorized foods to not meeting the minimum stock requirements. In addition to monitoring over 400 stores, Andy Ducker and Donald Bird also addressed all vendor complaints that were received in the State WIC Office.

Brenda Mooney provided administrative assistance to various Vendor Management Branch staff, and we appreciate all her efforts.

Vendor Training

The WIC Vendor Management Branch would like to extend our appreciation to all the area and local staff that provided training to newly authorized Alabama WIC vendors. In addition to training new vendors, many area and local staff have held special vendor training sessions for a national chain to further ensure compliance with the Alabama WIC vendor requirements.

Vendor Information Publication (VIP)

Newly implemented this year is the VIP e-newsletter for Alabama WIC vendors and clinic staff and is published every other month. The e-newsletter provides additional education throughout the year about issues and concerns that are reported to the WIC Vendor Management Branch. It is also an extra measure to ensure compliance across the state.





WIC OPERATIONS Amanda Martin, Director

The WIC Operations Branch is continuing to seek improvement of processes with help from our co-workers at the state and clinic level. In mid-June of 2010, the Crossroads SAM team completed the last design session of the new WIC computer system and began preparing for the development phase. In late June of 2010, four clinics began issuing famers market booklets through the Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP). And in October of 2010, all WIC staff began participating in a new method of annual Civil Rights training through a survey in the Alabama Department of Public Health's Learning Content Management System (LCMS). All of these programs achieved success because of your hard work and support.

Looking towards the future, Alabama WIC's Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) grant has completed year one of planning. Learning more about EBT, to include the feasibility of replacing the current paper process, will prepare Alabama for the new EBT-ready Crossroads system. Year two of the grant will be used to define the best method of food benefit issuance for WIC clinics and WIC vendors.

Crossroads SAM

The Crossroads SAM Project is now in its development stage and the team is excited about the progress. All of the Joint Application Design (JAD) sessions are complete and the new system is starting to take shape. The team has seen five demonstrations of the system and has attended one Periodic Development Review (PDR) session. During the PDR, Clinical Subject Matter Experts (SME) from all states in the Consortium were able to work in the new program to test the requirements and functionality. In the coming 2011 fiscal year, the project will evolve further with four more demonstrations and three additional PDR's.

In June of 2010, a new member joined the Alabama Crossroads SAM team. Ms. Maggie Gates-Kilgore accepted the position of User Acceptance Testing (UAT) Coordinator. The major purpose of the UAT Coordinator is to assist Crossroads users with testing the design and functionality of Crossroads. She will also be assisting with the major task of converting WIC data from PHALCON to Crossroads.

As the design of the clinic piece of Crossroads is nearing completion, the State WIC Office would like to recognize some of our Clinical Subject Matter Experts (SME): Denise Pope, Twanna Brown, and Cindy Templeton. Their knowledge and clinical expertise has been a great asset to the design and development phases of this project.



Alabama Crossroads Sam Project Clinical Subject Matter Experts (SME) L to R: Twanna Brown, Cindy Templeton, and Denise Pope





WIC OPERATIONS (cont.)

Amanda Martin, Director

2010 Farmers Market Nutrition Program

The 2010 Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) was a great success. Of the 7,760 booklets available to the four WIC clinics in Blount, Dallas, Marshall, and Morgan Counties, 7,494, or 96% were dispensed. WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program surveys filled out by participants and staff were positive. The majority of participants stated that neither they nor their children would have eaten as many fresh fruits and vegetables if it wasn't for the booklets and encouragement received from clinic staff. Of course, the 2010 program would not have been such a huge success if it were not for the dedicated clinic staff who took the time to explain the benefits of eating more fruits and vegetables.

2010 Civil Rights Training

Civil Rights Training should be completed by all current WIC staff between October and December 2011. This year, training will be conducted differently. We will be using the Learning Content Management System (LCMS). You will need to read one or two paragraphs then answer the questions associated with what you've just read. If you answer incorrectly, you will be redirected to read the paragraph(s) again. Once you have completed the training, you will print out the acknowledgement form, sign it and give it to your supervisor to be kept in the clinic training folder.

In support of patients' Civil Rights, WIC participants must be given the opportunity to self-identify race and ethnicity. In order to assist clinics with collecting racial and ethnic data, two forms have been added to the Document Library in Lotus Notes. The ADPH ENC-400, Information Request Form, will be used to help participants self-identify their race(s) and ethnicity.

The use of this form will insure that the participants' race will be self-reported and collected in a confidential manner. The second form is the ADPH-ENC-401, Language Flash Card. This form will be used to identify what language a person with limited English proficiency speaks. This will aid you when requesting interpreter services.

EBT Planning Grant

The goal of the grant is to capture and document Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) information which will shape the future of how WIC food benefits are issued in Alabama. EBT is the process of issuing WIC benefits electronically by card rather than by a paper check.

As of September 2010, the Alabama EBT team has attended seminars and training sessions in Nevada, Texas, and New Mexico to understand the different environments. All states that have implemented the EBT process value its simplicity. One of the major goals is to remove the stigma associated with being a WIC participant. While in other states, the team visited clinics, grocery stores, and central offices. From these site visits, the team learned:

- MICR printers and checks are eliminated
- The participant does not have to purchase all items at one store visit
- Checks are replaced with permanent cards











TIPS



WIC HEALTH TIPS

Featuring Fruit & Vegetable Recipes





APPLES!

NUTRIENTS IN APPLES:

Vitamins: C and fiber.

SELECTION:

Choose firm, shiny, smooth-skinned apples with stems still attached. Apples should smell fresh, not musty.

STORAGE:

Refrigerate in plastic bag away from foods with strong odors (like fish), since the apples will absorb the smells. Use within 3 weeks.

QUICK FIX TIPS:

- Dip apple slices in peanut butter for a tasty, nutritious snack.
- Chop apples and sprinkle with cinnamon. Serve on top of French toast.
- Add chopped apples to coleslaw, chicken, or ham

Simple Applesauce

fruitsandveggiesmorematters.org

Prep Time: 45 minutes plus cooling time

Serves: 6

Cups of Fruits & Veggies per Serving: 1

INGREDIENTS:

- 4 large apples, any variety, preferably sweet
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon

PREPARATION:

- 1. Core, but do not peel apples; cut into chunks.
- 2. Place in pan. Add water and bring to a boil.
- 3. Reduce heat to LOW and simmer 25 minutes or until apples are soft.
- 4. Add cinnamon and cook for 5 minutes. Cool.
- 5. Place in blender and blend until smooth.

Note: Sweet apples will not require sugar. If tart apples are used, some sugar may be needed.

Nutrition information does not include extra sugar.

Nutritional Information per Serving:

Calories:78; Total Fat: 0.3g

Dietary Fiber: 4g; Sodium: 2mg

Recipe is courtesy of Produce for Better Health Foundation (PBH).









TIPS



WIC HEALTH TIPS

Featuring Fruit & Vegetable Recipes





YELLOW SQUASH!

NUTRIENTS IN YELLOW SQUASH:

Vitamins: A and C; fiber.

SELECTION:

Choose squash that is heavy for its size without dents and soft spots.

Squash should be bright and glossy.

STORAGE:

Store yellow squash in a plastic bag in the refrigerator for up to ten days.

QUICK FIX TIPS:

- Cut raw yellow squash and zucchini into strips and serve with a low-fat ranch dip.
- Add sautéed squash as a veggie topping to your pizza.
- Create a healthy vegetable wrap by filling a whole-wheat tortilla with roasted squash, peppers, and tomatoes.

Snowboard Swooshin Squash

fruits and veggies more matters. org

Prep Time: 20 Minutes

Serves: 2

Cups of Fruits and

Vegetables per Serving: 1

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cup yellow squash, sliced
- 1 cup zucchini squash, sliced
- 1/4 cup onion, chopped
- 2 tsp garlic, minced
- ½ tsp cumin
- 3 seconds butter-flavored cooking oil spray
- 2 tbsp canned green chiles, diced
- 1/4 cup frozen yellow sweet corn
- 2 tbsp fat-free sour cream

PREPARATION:

- Lightly sauté the squash, zucchini, onion, garlic, and cumin until just soft with some cooking oil spray.
- 2. Toss in the remaining ingredients.
- 3. Place in a 1-quart casserole dish that has been sprayed with cooking oil.
- 4. Microwave 3 minutes on HIGH or until heated all the way through.

Nutritional Information per Serving:

Calories: 96; Total Fat: 2.5g

Dietary Fiber: 3g; Sodium: 39mg

Recipe is courtesy of Produce for Better Health

Foundation (PBH).

AREA NEWS

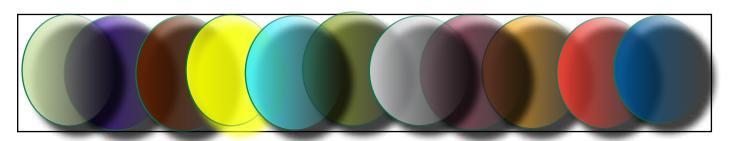
The State WIC Office takes great pleasure in showcasing some of the many and varied duties being performed daily by the very capable and dedicated area and county staff. The WIC Newsletter affords us the opportunity to highlight as well as spotlight some of their many,

one on one with each of our participants continually. We are also very pleased at how the WIC clinics have whole-heartedly embraced all of the new Outreach duties to increase our caseload. We are very proud of how the area and clinic staff have all pitched in and helped bring about



wideranging, diverse day to day tasks. This enables the Central Office staff as well as the neighboring areas and counties to observe the great jobs that are being performed by each of the local WIC clinics everyday. We cannot emphasize enough that the area and county WIC staff are the very backbone of the Alabama WIC Program. They are the ones that are on the front lines, so to speak, because they are the ones that are actually interacting

the tremendous increase in the statewide caseload. It is with excitement that that we will be able to provide nutritous foods for many more of the women, infants, and children of our state to not only become healthier individuals, but to become healthier families. We especially thank you, our area and county WIC staff, for your dedication to attaining these goals as well as performing all of your other day to day WIC activities.





Winston county

Congratulations to the the Winston County WIC Program! They have successfully worked as a team to increase caseload and improve show rates for appointments. From January to July 2010, their average show rate for appointments has been 96%! Each member of the team provides exceptional customer service and makes an extra effort to get participants in for appointments and food instrument pick up.



Back row: Rita Cornelius, Carol Davis, Brenda Hicks and Beth Romo Front row: Darlene Aderholt, Anita Gaither.

The Winston County WIC Team, above, with fruit and vegetables they grew in their very own gardens this summer. They have all participated in outreach activities in the community and are within eight participants of meeting their 1016 caseload goal.

Walker County

Kudos to The Walker County staff! They are being proactive by using their Get Fit WIC bulletin board, pictured below, to encourage the participants to eat healthy and move more.



Back row: Peggy Armstrong, Donna Key, Kim Noles, Rena Smith, Teresa Sanders

Front row: Judy Overton, Sandy Dover, Leigh Ann Colvin, Janet Suddeth, VaRhonda Dunagan, Miriam Argueta, Shirly King



Irea

Jackson county

For two days in August, National Breastfeeding Awareness Month, our prenatal WIC participants were given a gift at their initial certification visit in Jackson County. This was done to emphasize that breastfeeding is a wonderful gift they can give to their babies. The gift was a receiving blanket which can be used as an attractive covering when breastfeeding their infants. Oakwood intern Tamar Valentine, pictured below, discussed prenatal nutrition with WIC participants as she passed out the gifts of receiving blankets during Breastfeeding Awareness Month.



Tamar Valentine, Oakwood Intern Jackson County

Morgan County

Morgan County has been hard at work on Outreach with a recent visit by Pam Galbreath, Registered Nurse, to Calhoun Community College. Pam provided an overview of the WIC Program and its benefits, including income guidelines and eligibility requirements, to an audience of approximately twenty-five nursing students and two faculty members. Those present were given promotional items such as "How WIC Helps" booklets, "Get Growing WIth WIC" handouts, and various other treats to encourage them to think of WIC whenever there may be a need.

Kisha Franklin of Morgan County WIC recently visited the Somerville Baptist Church to talk with approximately thirty-five children ranging from kindergarten throuth sixth grade about nutrition. The younger group was treated to a "Get Healthy Now" video which introduced them to the importance of healthy eating by making the right food choices and staying active. The older children were introduced to the food guide pyramid, received food guide pyramid coloring sheets and crayons, and also discussed the importance of physical activity.

Area 2

Morgan County (cont.)

Approximately twenty-five children ranging in ages two to thirteen, along with some of the parents, participated in a milk taste test activity at the Morgan County WIC clinic to promote the transition to 1% and fat-free milk to the children that are two years old and older. They sampled 2%, 1%, and fat-free and voted on their favorite. Christine Jackson, a University of Alabama dietetic intern, explained the benefits of drinking fat-free or 1% milk and provided literature from the Alabama WIC Program and the National Dairy Coucil. To elaborate on the message, she created the below bulletin board.



Mild bulletin board created by Christine Jackson, University of Alabama Intern

Morgan County WIC Annual Breastfeeding Fair

The Morgan County WIC office hosted their 2nd Annual Breastfeeding Fair on August 26, 2010. The fair is an annual event organized by the WIC staff to help promote the many benefits of breastfeeding. Morgan County WIC participants who attended the fair received a goodie bag and tables were set up to provide breastfeeding information from the WIC staff. The event also provides WIC participants the opportunity to learn about other community organizations. This year the PACT program, La Leche League, and the Plan First Social Workers had tables at the fair. The fair was held in the Morgan County Health Department auditorium. Thirty-one WIC prenatal participants attended, many brought family or friends for a total of 45-50 people. Door prizes and refreshments were provided by local businesses, staff, and vendors. This event also provided the new WIC peer counseling



Kim Woods, ASA 99, Morgan County W9C

program coordinator an opportunity to share information with LaLeche League and recruit a potential peer counselor. The fair was a big hit with our WIC participants, thanks to the hard work of the Morgan County WIC staff and Ashley Louallen, chairman.

Madison County

Madison County invited WIC prenatal participants to a lunch and learn activity as a special emphasis during Breastfeeding month. The thirty-five WIC participants attending were served finger foods and listened to a local pediatrician encourage them to consider breastfeeding. Everyone enjoyed the door prizes and information provided. Marilyn Agee served as the chairman, but all of the WIC staff contributed to make this a very successful event. Pictured below are Marilyn Agee, Nutrition Associate, and Sheryl Gilbreath, Nutrition Associate.



Marilyn Agee, NA, Madison County W9C



Sheryl Gilbreath, NA , Madison County W9C





Tuscaloosa County

Tuscaloosa County welcomed Brenda Bridges, Registered Nurse, a new staff addition to Area 3 and to the Tuscaloosa County WIC Program.

Area 3 has also hired and welcomes our new contract interpreter, Daniel Salinas to the WIC Program. Daniel will be working in Tuscaloosa County for three days a week. The staff at Tuscaloosa are so very excited about having him on board. Daniel graduated from the University of Alabama in May 2009 with a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies with a minor in Spanish.

The Tuscaloosa County WIC staff took the WIC display which included a variety of WIC nutrion and eligibility infomation to the Babypaloosa Fair on June 12, 2010. This Fair was held at the University Mall in Tuscaloosa. There were several baby vendors participating and displaying their various goods and services. The WIC display was very popular with the attendees. As a result, we were able to hand out over 775 WIC income guideline and clinic information postcards. Pictured below are Elizabeth Mize, Outreach Coordinator and Renee Cole, Area 3 Nutrition Director. Sailaja Reddy (not pictured) also accompanied Elizabeth and Renee to the Babypaloosa Fair at the Tuscaloosa University Mall.



L to R: Elizabeth Mize, Renee Cole, Area Nutrition Director

The Area 3 Area Nutrition Director Renee Cole, RD, LD, and Sandy Wllson, Nutrition Associate (pictured below) took various WIC nutrition education materials and income guideline criteria to the Obesity Conference at the Bryant Conference Center in Tuscaloosa on June 3-4, 2010.



L to R: Renee Cole, Area Nutrition Director and Sandy Wilson , Nutrition Associate



Elizabeth Mize, Area 3 Outreach Coordinator

Elizabeth Mize and Jennifer Spencer, Area 3 WIC Outreach Coordinators, have been completing grocery store tours in our area. Elizabeth Mize, pictured above is at the Walmart in Tuscaloosa. On that day, they saw and recorded that they saw about 260 people and sent WIC income guidelines and clinic address/locations home with each. Since May, they have been to five individual grocery stores and have made contact with over 600 people.



Display setup by LeeAnn Wagner, Breastfeeding Coordinator, Tuscaloosa County

LeeAnn Wagner, Breastfeeding Coordinator for Tuscaloosa County, set up a display at the Tuscaloosa County Public Library for Breastfeeding Awareness Month. The display included the many benefits of breastfeeding as well as several of the brastfeeding incentive items we have had in the past. Also, breastfeeding books that the library had to offer were



Jefferson County

Caroline White, MA, RD, was hired in May as the Outreach Coordinator and has been very busy promoting WIC all summer. She has arranged our participation at heath fairs all across Jefferson County and organized our participation in Jefferson County Committee for Economic Opportunity's (JCCEO) Head Start registration where 1,700 children were seen in over a two week period. Two-hundred ninety-one WIC appointments were scheduled during those two weeks and one-hundred thirty-three new participants were gained across our six health centers.



L to R: Caroline White with Janice Rogers on Fox 6 Good morning Alabama Promoting Babypalooza.



BABYPALOOZA was a Zoo-za! L to R: Jeanne Baker Area 4 Nutrition Director, Caroline White , Outreach Coordinator,Suman Madan, WIC Coordinator





Suman Madan (right) talking with a potential participant.

L to R: Nora Seals, from West End Health Center, and Lindsay Adler, from Eastern Health Center, at the Brookwood Mall Back to School Blast

WIC Toll-Free Number1-888-WIC-HOPE 1-888-942-4673

Bonnie Jenkins, Health Promotions Summer Intern, Suman Madan (West End Health Center), and Jeanne Baker at the Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities event at Pepper Place Farmers Market. Bonnie demonstrated the amount of sugar and fat in various drinks and foods while Suman and Jeanne promoted the WIC program. The Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities initiative had another event at the East Lake Farmers Market in September 2010 where we once again participated in and promoted WIC.



L to R: Bonnie Jenkins, Health Promotions Summer Intern, Suman Madan (West End Health Center), Jeanne Baker, Area 4 Nutrition Director



(left to right) Celisia Burke (Eastern Health Center), Tashema Batch(Central Health Center), Suman Madan(West End Health Center), Jeanne Baker, (Area 4 Nutrition Director), Natalie Clements (Morris Health Center), Janet Bedsole (Bessemer Heath Center), Laura Morrison (Western Health Center)



Etowah County

Etowah County is celebrating Breastfeeding Month with a bulletin board in the lobby with some of their breastfed babies. Tresea Williams, WIC Coordinator, came up with the idea and Wendy Gray, ASA II, took the pictures.



Etowah County Bulletin Board

rea 5

We had an excellent response at the Springville Walmart Health Fair on Saturday, June 12, 2010. This was sponsored by the Vision Department. We were set up near the cash registers, so it was good for traffic flow since people had to come by on their way out.

Thanks to Pam Chaviers with Telehealth and Karen Osborne with Home Health Care for checking blood pressures. They both did a great job by offering each attendee a Home Health Care pamphlet and their business cards and talking to the individuals about Home Health Care. We had several children ask for their blood pressure to be checked after watching mom or dad. Pam also reviewed Telehealth and options

with those that might qualify.



Display Table From at the Springville Walmart Fair

Information on the table was from WIC, Get 10- Emergency Preparedness, Sexually Transmitted Disease, HIV, Tobacco Prevention, Home Health Care, Telehealth, Plan First, and Immunization.

We gave out lots of WIC stickers and coloring books. We also identified some families that would qualify for WIC and also talked to others that were on WIC and they reported no problems, and reported that were very pleased with the WIC program. Overall it was a good day and I thank everyone for providing the

materials needed for the table.

St. Clair County welcomes our new Nutrition Associate, Tia Johnson. Tia has an undergraduate degree from Montevallo and recently finished her internship at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). She hopes to take her Registered Dietician exam some time this fall. Tia also has a degree in Spanish!



Tia Johnson, Nutrition Associate, St. Clair County

Shelby County welcomes out new Nutrition Associate, Michelle Rybacki. Michelle previously worked at UAB and is originally from Illinois. We are excited to have her!



Michelle Rybacki, Shelby County Nutrition Associate



Cindy Templeton, Area Nutrition Director
Area 6





Public Health Area 6 News!

Kim Huddleston, a senior at Auburn University majoring in Health Promotion, did a summer internship in Public Health Area 6. She provided WIC outreach information in mainly Chambers, Cleburne, and Randolph counties. Kim also assisted Thelma Rowden, Calhoun and Talladega Outreach Coordinator, with WIC outreach at Terrific Kids Tuesdays at the Quintard Mall during June and July. WIC reminder bracelets were a hit with the kids!!



Kim Huddleston, Auburn University student at Terrific Kids Tuesdays' Outreach

Talladega County welcomes Yolonda James, Nutrition Associate. Yolanda has several years of WIC experience in Alabama and South Carolina. We are happy to have her in Public Health Area 6.



Yolanda James, Nutrition Associate, Talladega County

WIC Smart Shop, a grocery shopping tour, was held at the Piggly Wiggly in Heflin (Cleburne County) in June. Jenny Adams, RD, Cleburne County Nutritionist and Cindy Templeton, RD, Nutrition Director, led the tour. Special emphasis was placed on purchasing fresh fruits and vegetables with the Cash Value Voucher.

Jenny Adams (left), Cleburne County Nutritionist at Piggly Wiggly in Heflin.

The County Extension Service also provided a food demonstration using WIC food items. Hopping John was made with brown rice and dried peas. Strawberry - banana smoothies were also made. Samples were provide to participants. Yummmm!!!



Mary of The County Extension Service provided samples at Heflin Piggly Wiggly

Karla Chastain designed this colorful and clever bulletin board for the WIC office in Chambers County.



Chambers County Bulletin Board

Health Fairs were attended by the Chambers County WIC Staff during June and August. In June a health fair was held at the Valley Sportplex and in August, a health fair was sponsored by the Circle of Care in Lanett.

Chambers County staff at Health Fair



L to R: Karla Chastain, RD; Tracy Taylor RN; Lou Ellen Guy, RN; Macy Whorton, ASA 99

WIC Toll-Free Number1-888-WIC-HOPE 1-888-942-4673



The Area 7 WIC staff has grown in recent months due to efforts to increase WIC caseload throughout the area. On March 16, 2010, Barbara Shoemaker, Registered Nurse, joined the Area 7 staff as a "floating" WIC RN. Barbara has over twenty years of health department experience. She is providing staff coverage as needed as well as "extra" help throughout Area 7. With the addition of Barbara to the Area 7 WIC staff, WIC participants are able to get appointments easier, and some clinics have been able to increase WIC appointment days.

On April 16, 2010, two additional staff members, Nikki Sanford and Gina Kilgore, were added to the Area 7 WIC staff.

Nikki Sanford, Nutrition Associate, began work as the Area 7 Outreach Coordinator. Nikki is a graduate of the



Nikki Sanford, Area 7 Outreach Coordinator

University of Alabama. Nikki's work will focus on increasing awareness of the WIC Program throughout Area 7 as well as work with the county staff to promote WIC in their counties. Pictured is Nikki with WIC booth at the Lowndes County Law Enforcement Day in Hayneville, held May 1, 2010.

Gina Killgore, ASA II, is working as a "floating" WIC Clerk in the counties of Area 7. Gina's job responsibilities are to provide coverage as needed and to add additional support to the county WIC Clerk by working the WIC reports in an effort to increase participation.

On September 16, 2010, Janice Jones, ASA II began work as a "floating" WIC clerk in the counties of Area 7. Janice is primarily assigned to work in Dallas, Lowndes, Perry, and Wilcox Counties. Janice will provide clerical support to the WIC program in these

counties by filling in as needed and assisting with WIC reports.

Choctaw County

Plans are underway to begin a satellite clinic in Gilbertown in southern Choctaw County. A site has been identified and equipment ordered. This clinic will be open two days per month to meet the needs of WIC participants who live in this part of Choctaw County.

Area 7

Dallas County

Amy T. Lightfoot, Nutrition Associate, joined the staff of the Dallas County Health Department, February 1, 2010. Amy received her B.S in Dietetics and M.Ed in Health Promotion from Auburn University. The addition of Amy to the Dallas County staff is allowing WIC Coordinator, Rebecca Stewart, to spend more time working with the Peer Counseling program.

Beginning in late May, the Dallas County WIC Program changed their clinic hours to offer later appointments one day per week. On Mondays, the Dallas County WIC program is open until 7:00 pm. This allows a WIC participant to have an appointment as late as 6:20 p.m. This late clinic is staffed by Rachel Todd, RD, and Monique Tillis, ASA II.

Hale County

The Moundville WIC Clinic finally became a reality on June 10, 2010. This satellite clinic is a cooperative effort between the Moundville United Methodist Church and the Hale County Health Department. The clinic is open the 2nd Thursday of each month and is staffed by Jane Neill, RD and Cindy Crawford, ASA III. Response to this



Sign at Moundville United Methodist Church advertising
W9C clinic

satellite clinic has been very good. Jane Neill, RD, is currently serving as a preceptor for two dietetic students from the University of Alabama. They are working with Jane in Hale County. These two students have developed bulletin boards for the clinic and are teaching a Community Weight Control Class on September 17, 2010. Jane will also serve as preceptor for two more students in November 2010.

Lowndes County

Cindy King, Nutrition Associate, began working part-time at the Lowndes County Health Department on April 16, 2010. Cindy has previously worked for WIC in Dallas and Wilcox Counties, but for the past 15 years, she has been a stay at home mom. Cindy is joining Julie Till, RN, who has recently transferred from Wilcox County to Lowndes County as Nurse Coordinator.

Ritha Luckie, Clinic Aide, also returned to work full-time during March, 2010. Ritha is working hard to contact potential WIC participants throughout Lowndes County to encourage them to participate in WIC. Ritha also calls participants to remind them of their appointments and remind them to pick-up their food instruments. Local staff says that "Ritha talks more about WIC than Denise does". Through Ritha's efforts, Lowndes County's caseload is increasing. Keep up the good work Ritha!



(L to R): Cindy King and Ritha Luckie, Lowndes County Health Department

WIC Toll-Free Number 1-888-WIC-HOPE 1-888-942-4673

Marengo County

Plans are underway to open a satellite clinic in Demopolis. Currently, there are approximately 400 WIC participants on the program in Marengo County that live in the Demopolis area. A site has been found and is currently under renovation. Plans are to open this clinic one day per week beginning in October.

Perry County

Rosie Cunningham, RN, transferred from Lowndes County to Perry County as Nurse Coordinator in the Spring. Rosie is very familiar with the WIC program and is an asset to the WIC providers in Perry County.

The Uniontown satellite clinic has begun opening an additional day to meet the needs of the WIC participants. With the addition of the "floating" WIC Staff at the Area level, this clinic is now staffed on Tuesdays and Thursdays.



(L to R): Barbara Shoemaker, Denise Pope, and Gina Kilgore pose with new sign used at Uniontown satellite clinic



WIC Outreach Billboard in Perry County/Uniontown

Sumter County

Two Dietetics students from the University of Alabama are working with Jane Neill, Registered Dietician, in Sumter County this fall. Sumter County staff are working to offer more "open access" appointments to be able to accommodate WIC participants upon request.

Wilcox County

The Wilcox County Health Department is proud to announce the addition of Gwen Kennedy, Registered Nurse, to the staff. Gwen is a long-time ADPH Home Health Nurse who transferred to the clinic in July. Gwen is excited to be doing WIC and is enjoying encouraging mothers to breastfeed.

Jeanne Lambert, Registered Nurse, retired effective July 1, 2010. Jeanne was a great advocate for breastfeeding and will be missed.



Montgomery County

Breastfeeding Awareness Month at Montgomery County Health Department started out with a sizzle and ended with a bang. In early August, yellow ribbons were passed out to all WIC staff, other clinic staff (Immunization, Family Planning, Specialty, and Tuberculosis). They also all wore yellow ribbons in support of Breastfeeding Awareness month.



Brandy Ledet and son at Breastfeeding Awareness Reception

On August 24, 2010, the WIC clinic held its annual Breastfeeding Awareness reception for prenatal and currently breastfeeding WIC participants. During the reception, our newest WIC Employee, Alison Grant, Breastfeeding Peer Counselor, was introduced. The Moms were also updated on our Peer Counseling Program.



BackRow: Alison Grant, Peer Counselor; Alice Toles, WIC Coordinator Middle Row: Evelyn Moss and Sons Front Row: Khalifa Hebrew; Liz Hunter, Auburn Extension Program



(L to R): Carmlita Green, Nutritionist & Breastfeeding Peer Counseling Coordinator; Liz Hunter, Auburn Extension Program; Alison Grant, Peer Counselor; Alice Toles, W9C Coordinator

Area 8

Montgomery County (cont.)

Alison gave words of encouragement to the moms and shared some of her breastfeeding experiences. While eating refreshments, the moms watched the DVD "Breastfeeding: A Magical Bond of Love." Afterwards the breastfeeding moms shared tips with the prenatal moms. The tips included where to get the newest breastfeeding support tools and information to share with dads to help them feel comfortable with breastfeeding. The reception ended with the participants receiving goody bags.



Montgomery County Breastfeeding Awareness Reception Refreshment Table

Area 8 Nutritionist. Pictured below are the Area 8 Nutrition Director, and the designated nutrition contacts for each county of Area 8.



Macon County

On Saturday July 17,2010, Dolly Caldwell, Nutrition Associate, represented the Macon County Health Department as they held their Eighth Annual Health Fair. The Health Fair was held on the premises of the Macon County Health Departent located at 812 Hospital Road in Tuskegee, Alabama from 9:00 AM to 12:00 A.M.

We had good participation from other health agencies and vendors providing a wealth of services and information.

WIC provided several hand-outs which included: Less Salt in Your Diet, You Need Iron, Calcium, Eat More Low Fat Food for Health, Special Tips on Losing Weight, Take Charge of Your Health, Smart Ideas for Fit Families, and WIC Approved Foods Brochures.

WIC provided many give-aways, such as: tooth brushes, dental floss, medicine spoons, coloring booklets, crayons, book markers, emory boards, ink pens, prenatal gift packs, stickers, and cookbooks.

The Health Fair was well attended and all had a fun time.



Macon County Health Department Annual Health Fair Flyer

Back Row: Sarah McCurry, NA-Russell County; Natalie Stephens, RD-Lee County Head Start; Kathy Ricks, RD-Autauga, Chilton, Elmore; Alice Toles, RN-Montgomery County; Alexis Thompson, RD-Lee/Macon/Bullock/Russell Front Row: Doris Harden, Lister Hill W9C; Dolly Caldwell, Macon County; Amy Cleckler,

WIC Toll-Free Number 1-888-WIC-HOPE 1-888-942-4673

Macon County (cont.)

On Thursday June 17, 2010. The Health Department participated in the Health Fair sponsored by Central Alabama Comprehensive Health, Tuskegee, Alabama from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. The Macon County Health Department was represented by Cynthia Winlsey (Clinic Coordinator), and Joan Hicks (Social Worker).

WIC provided brochures on How WIC Works, Smart Ideas For Fit Families, Less Salt in Your Diet, Less Fat in Your

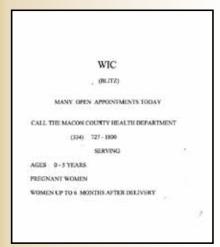
Diet, You Need Iron, You Need Calcium, and Folic Acid. Giveaways included: mini cookbooks, coloring booklets, coloring crayons, emory boards, stickers, book markers, prenatal gift packs, ink pins, chain purses, and medicine spoons. Each participant completed a form to decide which screenings they wished to receive. The names were recorded from the participant forms on file at the Macon County Health Department. The Health Fair was well attended.



Central Alabama Comprehensive Health Flyer

On June 24, 2010, Dolly A. Caldwell, Nutrition Associate, represented the Macon County Health Department by conducting the following Outreach:

She began by making a visit to S.E. Pediatrics, (Dr. Walker's office). She delivered outreach cards, and the announcement of a running WIC blitz at the Macon County Health Department.

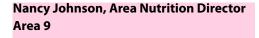


Macon County Health Department WIC Blitz Flyer

churches.

Dolly met with the pediatrician, (Doctor Walker) and talked with her about assisting them in promoting WIC. Dr. Walker is excited about the WIC program and is pleased to be able to offer her clients something extra to benefit them. She kept cards to personally hand out and the flier was placed in a large, glass advertising frame in her waiting room. Dolly also made a visit to Central Alabama Comprehensive Health, Tuskegee, Alabama. She was able to meet with the clerical staff, and they are also excited about the WIC Program. They are excited about how much the program has changed, and the new foods the program now offers since they were participatants. They put the WIC flier up, and placed the cards appropriately. They will not only promote the WIC Program to others, but refer their own family members as well. They also wanted to know if the qualifications had changed and whether they too could still qualify?

On that same day, Dolly visited Carlisle Child Day and Night Care Center, Tuskegee, Alabama. Mrs. Carlisle stated, "She would be happy to promote the WIC Program". The WIC fliers were displayed, and she will issue the WIC outreach cards to her parents to help promote the program. WIC fliers were also issued to all health department employees to deliver to the local YMCAs, and their



The counties in Area 9 have been extremely busy with outreach for the past few months. We have had numerous speaking engagements with community partners such as the Escambia County and Washington County Department of Human Resource staff, Baldwin County School Nurses, Public Health Workshop for Childcare Providers, Annual University of South Alabama Continuing Education Conference in Obstetrics and Gynecology, BP Oil Spill Expo, and Society of Human Resource Directors. We have also partnered with our local Headstart agencies, local community colleges, church groups, and community days such as the Wheelchair Wash in Covington County and the University of South Alabama - Community Day Event in Baldwin County to promote WIC. County WIC staff also partnered with their local Emergency Preparedness, Environmental and Social Work colleagues with recent Center for Disease Control surveys in Clarke, Wilcox, and Baldwin Counties. WIC income guidelines and pens were part of the packet of information given to the local citizens participating in the surveys.

Baldwin County recently hosted a "Breastfeeding Mothers Tea" to celebrate moms who had breastfed exclusively for at least one year. Forty invitations were sent to WIC moms who had not received any formula for their infants. Clinic employees joined together to provide food and door prizes to show their support for these moms.



Banquet Table at Breastfeeding Mothers Tea - Baldwim County

Baldwin County (cont.)

Among the WIC moms present for the Tea was one mom who had breastfed each of her children for one year! Everyone enjoyed the special event and look forward to next year's celebration.



Breastfeeding Mom and children at Baldwin County Breastfeeding Mothers Tea

Phyllis Redmon, Nutrition Associate, is participating in the "Be Our Voice Obesity Advocacy" project in Escambia County. One of the committee's projects is to plant community gardens in Brewton so Phyllis has started a WIC garden with her WIC children. So far, they have planted carrots, lettuce, turnips, collards, mustards, snap beans, and beets. They plan to plant fall tomatoes. The garden size is 8 feet by 8 feet and planting with the children occurs after the SNE classes every Wednesday morning. This WIC community garden project is such a new and exciting way to let the community learn about good nutrition and the WIC Program. Way to go Farmer Phyllis!!!



Escambia County's Community Garden started by Phyllis Redmon

Area 10

Area 10 welcomes two new employees Corey Kirkland and Amy VandeLune. Corey is the WIC Outreach Coordinator and began his duties in April. Corey transferred from the Tobacco Program and has numerous contacts in the community from working with this program. Corey has already been on three radio stations in the area promoting WIC.



Amy VandeLune, WIC Floater Nutritionist

Amy began working as the WIC Floater Nutritionist in May to help increase caseload. Amy passed her RD exam in July! Amy is a graduate of The University of Alabama. Roll Tide!

Corey Kirkland, Area 10 Outreach Coordinator attended Babypalooza. Babypalooza is a resource for expectant parents, new parents, and growing families with children of all ages. This was a wonderful outreach experience for the Area 10 WIC program. Our booth was very popular with new parents, expecting parents and soldiers from Ft. Rucker. Families who did not qualify picked up information for friends and family while past WIC participants stopped by to inspect our new food



WIC Booth at Babypalooza, Dothan Civic Center

package and shared how important the program had been to their families in the past. The event was held in the Dothan Civic Center on May 8, 2010, with additional events planned for Birmingham and Tuscaloosa. In addition to Babypalooza, the Area 10 outreach program participated in outreach activities for the Hawk Houston Boys and Girls club and Southeastern Apparel.

In Dothan, on September 30, Corey Kirkland, Area 10 Outreach Coordinator, represented WIC at the Eufaula Health and Wellness Fair in the Eufaula Community Center. WIC has been well received by participants and was invited to come back next year to each of these events .

Corey and Karen Campbell, WIC Coordinator gave a WIC refresher to the employees at the southside WalMart in Dothan.



Corey Kirkland, W9C Outreach Coordinator

Area 10

Houston County

The Houston County WIC Program is proud to announce that a Breastfeeding Peer Counseling Program will begin the end of this month. At this time, three have been hired. They are Brittany Sanchez of Cottonwood, Alabama, Kira Hutto of Dothan, Alabama, and Autumn Jones of Taylor, Alabama. They will be making phone calls to postpartum women to answer any questions they may have and to provide assistance in breastfeeding. They will also provide assistance in making referrals to a lactation consultant when necessary. Brittany is the mother of a two year old daughter, who she breastfed for eight months. She says "she loves helping people and is very passionate about breastfeeding". She is looking forward to helping by sharing the knowledge gained from her experiences. Kira is the mother of two girls, ages five and three; one boy, age two. All were breastfed beyond eight months. She says "she knows that having good support is vital to successful breastfeeding". She comes from a large family of breastfeeders and has done research on the benefits for both mom and baby. She is excited about being a Breastfeeding Peer Counselor and helping other mothers. Autumn is the mother of five boys. The latter three which were breastfed are ages nine, seven, and 15 months--which is being currently breastfed. She states that she is a huge advocate of breastfeeding and believes in it one hundred percent. She has experience working in daycares, volunteering in hospital maternity wards, and also working with teen moms in various churches. She is anxious to put her experience into practice by helping other mothers. They will be trained for two weeks by State Peer Counseling Coordinator, Alexis Aday, for two days a week for five hours a day.



(L to R) Autumn Jones, Alexis Aday, Brittany Sanchez, and Kira Hutton.

Houston County WIC welcomes two new clerks! Miranda Williams and Connie Darby. Miranda was working the walk in board at Houston County and Connie transferred from Coffee County.



L to R: Miranda Williams and Connie Darby, Houston County

Two WIC Bulletin Boards created by Houston County Health Department WIC staff.



W9C bulletin board - Houston County



W9C bulletin board - Houston County

Geneva County

Geneva County welcomes Brittnay Hornsby, ASA II. Brittnay recently received her degree from Huntingdon College.



Brittnay Hornsby, ASA 99, Geneva County

Pike County

Pike County welcomes two new Breastfeeding Peer Counselors.



(L to R) Anna Grace and Carrie Johnson

April Messer began work on May 3, 2010, as a WIC pick up clerk for Dale and Coffee counties.



April Messer, Clerk, Dale and Coffee Counties

Barbour County

In March 2010, Theresa Person, Barbour County WIC Coordinator, and Debbie Curran, Area 10 Nutrition Director, trained all cashiers for the new super WalMart at Eufaula. Two trainings were held to train the 70 cashiers and Front End Manager.

Crenshaw County

In March, Crenshaw County Health Department moved into their new building. Their new building is located across from the hospital and near the Department of Human Resources. An open house was held in May 2010.



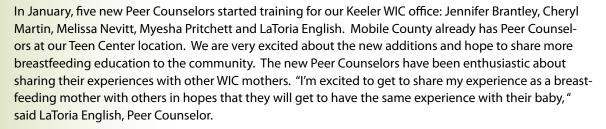
Newe Crenshaw County Health Department Building

Crenshaw County Health Department welcomes new employee Tula Reeves. Tula is an ASA II and began work on August 16, 2010.



Tula Reeves, ASA 99, Crenshaw County Health Department





In March, Area 11 started a Saturday Outreach Campaign at local grocery stores that will continue through the end of September. WIC clerks and providers are available at local grocery stores to make appointments for potential eligibles. The staff have seen positive results with this campaign.

Mobile County welcomes Minette Elder, Registered Dietitian, Licensed Dietitian, to Area 11. Minette comes to public health with twenty-five years of experience in the clinical setting. Also, we welcome Sommerlyn Mitchell to the WIC Program. Sommerlyn is serving as the WIC Outreach Coordinator.

On August 2, 2010, the Mobile County Health Department hosted a grand opening ceremony at its newest WIC Clinic in the southern part of the County. This clinic will provide a greater point of access for in-need residents. The clinic is located in Tillman's Corner at 4419 Rangeline Road.



L to R: Patricia Robinson, LaCrena Nicholson, Jennier Brantley, Elizabeth Smith, Sommerlyn Mitchell, Nancy Roman, Erica Redd, and Meridith Gardner



Mobile County's Newest W9C Clinic

WIC Toll-Free Number1-888-WIC-HOPE

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