**Date:** October 3, 2018

**Presenters:** Kathy Mertzlufft, WIC Nutrition Services Manager

**WIC District State Staff Present**: Carrie Lines, Nancy Green

**LA WIC staff present**:

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| **Barry** | Suzanne Ball, Alejandra Hernandez, Kim Selvey, Barbara Miller, Franchesca Flores, Esmeralda Perez | **Hickory** | Betty Rosbrugh, Sandi Nelson |
| **Barton** | Tina Schnelle | **Joplin** | Joyce Doty, Linda Busch, Mary Keels, Rhonda Bloom |
| **Bates** | Kim Brubaker, Renaye Still | **Lawrence** | Angie Boettler, Tammy Gleason, Sarah Arnold, Paula Myers |
| **Benton** | Bonnie Etter, Ethel Keyte, Quartnie Breshears | **McDonald** | Karen Buckman, Kali Anderson, Kayla Langford, Sarah Wilson |
| **Cedar** |  | **Newton** | Pam Link, Cherie Herron, Rebecca Laird, Manny Garcia, Brenda Tuttle, Amy Shaeffer, |
| **Christian** | Vicky Pestle, Chelsea Wilson, Patricia Smith, Ashley Eichelberger, Jessica Bricker, | **Polk** | Tammy Atteberry |
| **Dade** | Tammy Attebury | **St. Clair** | Melissa Cone, Betty Rosbrugh, Paulette Schaaf, |
| **Dallas** |  | **Stone** | Susan Campbell, Rebecca Bailey, Carl Dowdel, Sharon Scroggins, Alyssa Gloor, |
| **S. Greene** | Mary Ellison, Julie Randolph, Sarah Gooch, Joy Stassel, Jennifer Rice, Tawana Frazier, Rana Colman, Allison Owen, Shannon Highfill, Tommy Boyce, Jessica Walker, Tara Williams, | **Taney** | Tammy Drake, Marilyn Long, Kim Conway, Jodie Boff |
| **Henry** | Tonya Chandler, Shannon McQueen, Hannah Clark | **Vernon** | Amy Burns, Josie Faibian |
|  |  | **Webster** | Martha Gehrke, Marsha Stoll |

1. *Nutrition Services/ State update: Kathy Mertzlufft, WIC Nutrition Services Manager, DHSS*

Kathy discussed the upcoming change in the nutrition assessment process. The workgroup has developed the ABCDE Tool to assess WIC staff is conducting a nutrition assessment. Different tools are being developed for staff that are new to the process and those that are experienced. The process is meant to get away from data entry so that the staff can concentrate on addressing the concerns of the participant and giving nutrition education as appropriate. Guidance will be coming out next year on the ABCDE Tools, documentation, and training.

Kathy was asked when eWIC rollout was happening. The schedule is being developed and should be finalized soon. Kathy said a general timeline will be shared at the Town Hall presentation on the last day of the conference. At this time, the pilot stage is anticipated to begin late spring and statewide rollout would then begin late summer and completing by the end of the calendar year.

Kathy also announced the upcoming program “Talking is Teaching: Talk, Read, Sing.”. This is part of a national campaign to encourage caregivers to engage with their infants and children to expose them to as many words as possible. Research shows that talking, reading, and singing with your child every day from birth builds their brain which helps them do better school and be more successful. A tip sheet for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers and children’s books from CDC will be available for agencies to give to their participants. Training will be completed for local agencies at future district meetings. This is education that anyone at a local agency can provide to participants.

1. *SW District Meetings for the future.*
   1. January 22, 2019 at the Springfield-Greene County Library Center, 4653 S Campbell Ave, Springfield, in the Auditorium, 10:00am to 3:00pm.
   2. April 2019 TBA—we may try to reserve a room at the new library in Joplin, rather than Springfield—please give us some feedback regarding date and location! Thanks!

Please email Carrie Lines or Nancy Green if you have any ideas regarding topics or speakers or wish to facilitate a future SW District Meeting.