

Department: Health Department **Program Contact:** Kathleen Humphries
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Requested
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: In Target

Executive Summary

The Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC) serves approximately 14,000 pregnant women and mothers and their infants and young children per month. WIC promotes positive health outcomes through strengthening life course nutrition with healthful foods and nutrition education, promoting and supporting breastfeeding, and providing comprehensive health and social service referrals.

Program Summary

WIC is a public health program that improves the nutrition and nutrition-related health of pregnant women, nursing moms, infants, and young children. The program is committed to raising the level of nutrition-related health status experienced by the most vulnerable members within the county. WIC provides nutritious food, nutrition education and counseling, growth monitoring, health screening, peer breastfeeding support, and networks of support to eligible families. These services strive to have lasting effects so families enjoy better nutrition and health throughout their lives.

Early life nutrition affects every aspect of health across the life course. Evaluation shows WIC families are in overall better health and have less food insecurity when participating in the program. WIC mothers have a 25% reduced risk for preterm birth and 44% lower risk for low birth weight babies, resulting in better health, less chronic disease throughout their lives, and Medicaid costs savings. Supporting families in their breastfeeding goals is another key focus area for WIC. Breastfeeding provides immunity protection to infants, health benefits to the mother, and lifelong risk reduction for chronic diseases. Breastfeeding promotion uses an evidence-based support model that is effective for the County's most vulnerable families who experience significant racial/ethnic disparities in breastfeeding and income.

WIC serves over 20,000 clients annually with an average of 6.4 significant nutrition contacts per client. WIC clients also receive access to other support services including prenatal care, immunizations, Head Start, housing and day care assistance, social services, referrals to County public health, SNAP, and other food assistance programming, and more. As a core referral center for other health and social services, WIC is key in enrolling families in Medicaid and private insurance and other early childhood programs. The 21 full time equivalent nutrition provider staff conducted 46,373 visits with WIC clients in 2019. WIC emphasis culturally and linguistically appropriate services for its diverse clientele: 26.6% of WIC clients do not speak English and, in a given month, WIC serves over 3,660 clients who speak 42 languages other than English (up from 40 languages in 2018). Strategies include having signage in multiple languages, hiring staff who speak multiple languages fluently, and contracting with outside agencies to provide interpretation services.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY19 Actual	FY20 Budgeted	FY20 Estimate	FY21 Offer
Output	Number of WIC clients in one year who receive healthful foods with E-WIC benefits	20,186	21,800	20,186	21,000
Outcome	Percent of WIC clients initiating breastfeeding	94%	92.5%	94%	94%
Outcome	Number of nutrition education contacts with WIC families	46,373	47,000	46,373	47,000
Quality	Average number of clients served per month in languages other than English	3,662	3,900	3,662	3,700

Performance Measures Descriptions

1) Participants receive healthful foods and culturally specific ideas on how to use them. Infants who are breastfeeding receive food benefits via enhanced food packages for their nursing mother. 2) % of mothers who initiated breastfeeding after delivery. 3) All participant contacts that include nutrition education, counseling, or support activity or interaction. 4) Families who indicate "prefers a language other than English" and for whom interpreters were provided and family was successful in becoming certified at WIC.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children are authorized by Section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. 1786, as amended through PL105-394, and the regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, 7 CFR Ch. II, Part 246.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Requested General Fund	Requested Other Funds
Program Expenses	2020	2020	2021	2021
Personnel	\$1,333,009	\$2,665,245	\$1,084,396	\$3,245,493
Contractual Services	\$62,169	\$0	\$88,130	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$63,951	\$590	\$109,731	\$42,608
Internal Services	\$740,871	\$308,973	\$814,173	\$385,640
Total GF/non-GF	\$2,200,000	\$2,974,808	\$2,096,430	\$3,673,741
Program Total:	\$5,174,808		\$5,770,171	
Program FTE	13.48	25.12	11.25	28.55

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$2,974,808	\$0	\$2,904,037
Other / Miscellaneous	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$769,704
Total Revenue	\$0	\$2,974,808	\$0	\$3,673,741

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$379,723 in indirect revenues.

WIC's revenue includes federal funds in the intergovernmental revenue agreement between Multnomah County as the local public health authority (LPHA) and the State of Oregon Public Health Services. WIC is also funded with County general fund. County general funds assist the WIC program in meeting the Federal/State funding requirement of scheduling new pregnant women within 10 days of application to the program. Starting in FY17, Title V grant funds were also part of the WIC portfolio of funding. These funds are used to increase African American culturally specific breastfeeding support in Multnomah County through WIC.

\$ 2,829,037 - State WIC grant
\$ 75,000 - State Maternal & Child Health (Title V) grant
\$ 769,704 - HSO county Based services - WIC

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2020: 40018-20 Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

For FY 2021, WIC received new funding from Health Share of Oregon (\$769,704), which mitigates some County General Fund reductions and increased programmatic costs to maintain a stable service level.