

Department: Health Department

Program Contact: Sabrina Villemenay

Program Offer Type: Operating

Program Offer Stage: Adopted

Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:

Program Description

The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program provides nutritious food, nutrition education/counseling, growth monitoring, health screening, and breastfeeding support to eligible families. WIC is a core referral center for health and social services, including prenatal care, immunizations, Head Start, housing and day care assistance, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and other food assistance, and other County programs, such as home visiting services. WIC is a leader in innovation, and a regional partner for cross-cutting health programming and equity expertise. In 2024, WIC served approximately 19,202 unique clients with over 50,380 visits. Participants received healthy foods totaling \$8.7 million supporting both nutrition and food security. WIC services have continued to be provided in person across all 4 clinics locations as well as at some various partner locations.

As part of the national WIC program, WIC serves income-eligible families to help ensure essential developmental nutrition needs are met. Multnomah County's WIC program follows this approach to reach those most in need of services to have the greatest impact on the community's overall health and uses nutrition science research and program data to inform services. In addition to poorer health outcomes associated with low income, data indicate nutrition-related health disparities among people of color, especially Black and Indigenous women, infants and children, and program data indicate high demand among families that speak languages other than English. Thirty percent (30%) of WIC clients identify as Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color, and 34% prefer communication in languages other than English. WIC responds through posting signage in multiple languages, employing staff that are fluent in multiple languages and cultures, interpretation services contracts, and technology to improve access. Eighty-six percent (86%) of WIC staff have language and/or cultural Knowledge, Skills and Abilities (KSA) or are immigrants or refugees (up from 77% in 2020 and 45% in 2016), enabling WIC to reach populations most disparately impacted by food/nutrition insecurity. WIC also surveys clients about their needs and works with community partners to respond, like partnering with the Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) program to provide culturally specific cooking and nutrition classes for our Black/African American/African Immigrant communities to help them make use of their WIC food benefits. WIC and REACH also hosted a third virtual Town Hall breastfeeding and maternal health conference, attended by people around the country, with Time Magazine's 2022 Women of the Year awardee Dr. Jennifer Joseph, who presented on an evidence-based, maternity care model for eliminating persistently poorer maternal health outcomes among communities of color to 269 healthcare providers, community members, County staff and medical professionals. Our Breastfeeding Peer Counseling (BFPC) program continues to be a popular nutrition support among clients and experienced a 63% increase in caseload over the past 12 months serving 1,158 participants monthly. In addition, our International Board Certified Lactation Consultants provide in-clinic support, including culturally specific lactation promotion, across many County programs and with external partners to ensure all eligible people can access this service.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Performance Measure	FY24 Actual	FY25 Budgeted	FY25 Estimate	FY26 Target
Output	# of WIC clients in one year who receive healthful foods	19,202	19,500	19,500	19,500
Outcome	% of WIC clients initiating breastfeeding	96%	93%	93%	93%
Output	# of nutrition education contacts with WIC families	50,380	57,000	57,000	57,000
Quality	% of clients served per month in languages other than English	34.5%	26%	26%	26%

Performance Measures Descriptions

1. The number of individual clients within the year who received supplemental food benefits through the WIC program. 2. The percentage of clients that gave birth within the year who initiated breastfeeding with their newborn(s). 3. The total number of client encounters provided during the year in which nutrition education was provided. 4. The percentage of clients each month who received WIC services in a language other than English.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) is 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	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2025	2025	2026	2026
Personnel	\$2,294,571	\$3,787,877	\$2,571,830	\$3,443,838
Contractual Services	\$61,526	\$2,495	\$50,774	\$48,322
Materials & Supplies	\$162,818	\$206	\$117,027	\$319,325
Internal Services	\$1,020,128	\$770,766	\$799,977	\$1,488,662
Total GF/non-GF	\$3,539,043	\$4,561,344	\$3,539,608	\$5,300,147
Program Total:	\$8,100,387		\$8,839,755	
Program FTE	17.86	29.94	20.33	26.37

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$4,561,344	\$0	\$4,688,819
Beginning Working Capital	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$611,328
Total Revenue	\$0	\$4,561,344	\$0	\$5,300,147

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$536,677 in indirect revenues.

WIC Perinatal Continuum Care - \$790,040

Fed Thru State \$75,000 - State Maternal & Child Health (Title V) grant

WIC Administration - \$258,675

Fed thru State - WIC Breast Feeding - \$409,321

Fed thru State - WIC East Cty Clinic - \$879,162

Fed thru State - WIC Gateway Clinic - \$1,713,796

Fed thru State-WIC North East Clinic - \$355,573

Beginning Working Capital - \$611,328

Federal through Other - WIC Community Innovation and Outreach - \$207,252

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2025: 40018 Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

In FY 2026 the Gateway WIC clinic will move from their current location to a new location in Rockwood. Most federal funds will be used to support the move, and some general fund support noted in the PHD Director's Office budget will also support the move.

This budget adds \$207,252 to The FY26 WIC budget for mobile clinical and outreach work. This adds 1.00 FTE, Clinical supplies and pass-through funding for our Rockwood CDC partners. This will allow us to provide services in communities with our clients live, work, play, and pray.