MISSION OF WIC

To assure healthy pregnancies, healthy birth outcomes and healthy growth and development for women, infants and children up to age 5 who are at nutritional risk, by providing nutritious supplemental foods, breastfeeding promotion and support, education on healthy eating, and referrals to healthcare and critical social services.

FUN FACTS

RELOCATION OF 6 OUT OF 15 CLINICS DUE TO THE IMPACT OF HURRICANE MARIA IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THE ACCESS FOR SERVICES TO PARTICIPANTS.

DEVELOPMENT OF NEW POLICIES AND PROCEDURES TO ERADICATE POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS COMMITTED BY PARTICIPANTS, VENDORS AND EMPLOYEES TO THE ESTABLISHED NORMS AND PROCEDURES IN ORDER TO ASSURE THE PROGRAM INTEGRITY.

THE BREASTFEEDING RATE INCREASED 2.19%.

FROM OUR PARTICIPANTS

“As a vendor, the WIC program is a great asset for business. At the same time you serve as a link between the government and the program that provides health, nutrition and education for the benefit of WIC participants.”

WIC VENDOR, PUERTO RICO

“My name is Yarimar Colón and I am a 36 year old teacher. My daughter Celeste is four years old and since I became pregnant, WIC took care of both of us. WIC has taught me how to have good nutrition habits for me as well as for my family.”

WIC PARTICIPANT, PUERTO RICO

WHO PARTICIPATES IN WIC?

Puerto Rico WIC Participation FY 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant Women</td>
<td>12,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fully Breastfeeding Women</td>
<td>4,729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Breastfeeding Women</td>
<td>7,893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postpartum Women</td>
<td>6,291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infants</td>
<td>23,506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>90,060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>139,769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coverage [% eligible]</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WIC IS EFFICIENT
Puerto Rico Food and Nutrition Services Benefits FY 2017

Average monthly food value per participant $88.70
Net federal food cost $148,770,079
Competitive bidding savings $13,417,330
Nutrition, client services, and program management $35,603,725
Total funds to state $197,791,134

Source: USDA FNS WIC Program Data FY2017 https://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wic-program

BREASTFEEDING

National WIC Participant Breastfeeding Initiation Rates
Puerto Rico WIC Participant Breastfeeding Initiation Rates

Source: USDA 2016 WIC Participant and Program Characteristics (PC) Report. PC data allows for standardized comparisons to demonstrate overall progress. Some states collect more data than required by the PC Report and may yield different and more current results than shown.

EBT STATUS

Puerto Rico has not implemented EBT/eWIC statewide. All state WIC programs must transition from paper vouchers to electronic benefit transfer cards (EBT) by 2020.

WIC SUPPORTS MILITARY FAMILIES

Military families are welcome to visit any of their 89 WIC clinics.

CONTACT DETAILS

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