

# Policy Update

National Advisory Council

July 23, 2013

# Program Integrity - External Forces

Two major efforts recently completed:

- OIG Vendor Audit
- GAO Income Eligibility Survey



Both highlighted greater FNS oversight and guidance as recommended actions

# Program Integrity - Vendors

- ▶ Management evaluations of vendor area for all States\* by end of FY 2014.
- ▶ Working with NWA on a Program Integrity track for the September 2013 Technology/Integrity conference.
  - \* All geographic WIC State agencies using retail food delivery systems

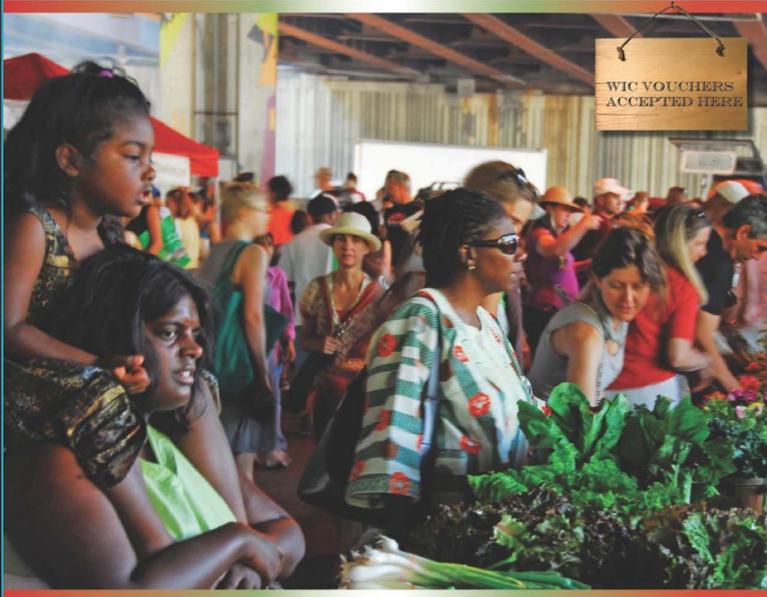
# Vendor Studies

Several Studies related to WIC Vendor Management in progress or planned:

- Quick Turnaround on Successful Vendor Management Practices – completed August 2012
- ▶ WIC Vendor Management Study – in clearance
- ▶ Indicators of High Risk WIC Vendors – in progress
- ▶ Peer Groups and Competitive Prices – early stages

# Program Integrity - Participants

## National Survey of WIC Participants II Volume 1: Participant Characteristics (Final Report)



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Food and  
Nutrition  
Service

April 2012

GAO

United States Government Accountability Office  
Report to Congressional Requesters

February 2013

## WIC PROGRAM

### Improved Oversight of Income Eligibility Determination Needed



GAO-13-290

# **Income Eligibility Guidance**

**WIC Policy Memorandum 2013-3  
was issued to all WIC State  
agencies on April 24, 2013.**



# Income Eligibility Guidance

- ▶ The Guidance represents the first chapter of what will eventually be a *Certification/Eligibility Handbook*



- ▶ The Guidance has also been posted to the FNS public website.

# Policy Revision Project

**Goal:** Review, revise and re-issue all outdated WIC policy, including numbered and unnumbered WIC Policy Memoranda and Instructions. Make all policy available to all FNS Regional Offices and WIC State agencies.

## **Progress:**

- **Review:** Complete (05/2012)
- **Revise:** All branches are currently working to consolidate and revise outdated policies
- **Re-Issue:** We have just begun to re-issue revised policy and post to the WIC website and the FNS-FMNP-SFMNP PartnerWeb; more to come in FY2013 and FY2014

# WIC Nutrition Risk Priority Training

- ▶ In March, SFPD provided training to FNS Regional Offices on the nutrition risk priority system and other caseload management strategies.
- ▶ The presentation has been posted to the FNS Partner Web for State agency reference.



WIC Priority System 101

# WIC and Disasters

- ▶ FNS has partnered with FEMA to develop a fact sheet on WIC's role during a disaster.
- ▶ A Disaster Handbook for WIC State agencies is also forthcoming.



Fact Sheet:  
**WIC and Disasters**

# WIC NUTRITION Risk

- ▶ FNS will issue its annual WIC nutrition risk criteria revision this summer.
- ▶ The revision includes an update to selected risk criteria as part of the cyclical review process.
- ▶ This revision does not include any “new” risk criteria, and therefore no MIS changes are anticipated.



- ▶ FNS plans to host a series of webinars for WIC State and local agencies on VENA-related topics beginning this fall.
- ▶ FNS is also collaborating with CDC to present a webinar on “Learn the Signs. Act Early” on August 1<sup>st</sup>.