

WIC ASSOCIATION OF NYS



Newsletter

Issue No. 6 | Fall 2022



Congratulations and Welcome to our newest Board Members!

Natasha Ashley, Metro Advocate
Cornell Cooperative Extension

Ashley Clarke, Western Provider
ProAction of Steuben & Yates Co.

Keri Santos, Western Provider
Jordan WIC Program

Kristin Van Houten, Provider
Catholic Charities of Buffalo

Sarah DeFrank, Western Advocate
Food Bank of the Southern Tier

Cindy Walsh Director Emeritus/
previously an advocate for
Central Region

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Thank You!

Monica Thompson, Coordinator
Cornerstone Family Healthcare WIC
Program

Thank you for always showing your
support for the WIC Association of
NYS, Inc. You have been our most
interactive coordinator throughout
NYS!



2023 MEMBERSHIP DUES:

Membership Invoices were emailed to local agencies between October 24-25, 2022

If you did not receive your invoice or have questions or request please email
wicassociationofnys@gmail.com

Thank you, Catholic Charities Columbia/Green County, for being the first to send your annual payment for a second year in a row!



What do your dues do?

The WIC Association's Board of Directors would like to assure you that our commitment to serving our members and the WIC Program is stronger than ever. You will be receiving the 2023 WIC Association of NYS Membership renewal invoice within the next two weeks. Membership will:

Provide local agency staff with a discount for WIC Association of NYS 2023 Virtual Conference registration, April 18-20th 2023.

- Offer WIC staff continuing education credits via the Annual conference.
- Fund advocacy days with legislators and government officials.
- Support collaboration with the National WIC Association for USDA policy changes to improve WIC services.
- Help guide program enhancement and policy change through continued collaboration with NYSDOH.
- Provide access to the Association's Annual Meeting (date to be determined).
- Afford WIC local agencies voting rights for regional representation on the board of directors.

Support the WIC Association of New York State by becoming a member agency. Membership dues are an approved expense under the annual WIC budget.

To learn more about the Association of NYS visit us at <https://nyswica.org/> and follow us on:

Facebook @wicassociaionofnys

Instagram @wicassociaionofnys



JOIN US FROM
9:00AM-1:00PM
APRIL 18-20,2023!

For more information,
go to our website
[Enter Here!](#)

Meet n Greet:

A Meet n Greet session was held on October 13, 2022 for WIC Coordinators representing all areas of NYS. At the virtual convening, WIC Coordinators had the opportunity to learn more about the Association and board. WIC Coordinators also broke out into small groups to network and share their best practices.

Some highlights from our best practices conversations:

- The pandemic has changed our collective outlook on how information is collected and prepared for WIC appointments. Use of an Autodialer or systems that support communication and information sharing is a beneficial tool that improves quality patient services.
- Recognition of WIC staff can be an everyday occurrence that costs little money-- Managers can take a moment to say Thank you or Good job to recognize staff.
- Inclusion of all WIC staff in decision making processes that impact WIC services is an important way to establish a better office environment and ensure accountability of staff at all levels.

Thank you to all who joined and we look forward to have those who joined to join us again in addition to new commers. Future sessions will provide a forum to cohesively work on achieving your program goals and allow for more time for WIC Coordinators to connect.

Register [here](#) for our next Meet n Greet _ December 1 2022 12p-1p

ADVOCACY CORNER

WIC has a number of legislative priorities, but we want to take this space to say Thank You to the many dozens of WIC providers who reached out to your member of Congress this past year+ to help #extendtheWICbump! As an association, we have communicated the Excellent value and importance of WIC and the CVB boost to the NYS delegation and the public; having educational meetings and sending emails to members, participating in advocacy tweetchats, and many targeted social media posts on Facebook and Instagram. We now turn our attention to a full CVB extension through September, 2023 with the Appropriations process, and then made permanent through Child Nutrition Reauthorization.

We want to be sure we continue to provide legislative offices feedback from WIC providers in their area on how the benefit is being implemented, the response from families, and the positive impact it is having on the broader community.

So again, we still need your help. Please keep asking participants (and staff and vendors) to share their thoughts, and if they would be willing to have them posted on social media and/or included in a message to their Congressional Representative. There's no wrong door to get these comments to us; email, or DM on our social media channels.

And please let us know if you might be willing to participate in a virtual education meeting with elected officials - you only need to brag on your amazing WIC program!



2022 Strategic Planning Conference & Training Saratoga Springs



The WIC Association of NYS Board of Directors worked with the New York Council of Nonprofits (NYCON) to guide a strategic planning meeting October 17-19th to review the Association's mission and vision and to develop a workplan to achieve goals over the next three years.

In early October, NYS local WIC agencies and WIC staff were asked to share their views on the WIC Association of NYS. The responses from this survey were used to guide discussion as to how the Association can best serve our members, WIC local agencies and WIC participants. Thank you to those who completed the survey. This process will help to provide the direction of the Association for the next few years. Once the strategic plan is finalized it will be shared on the Association's website!