Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
P.O. Box 570, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0570 Phone: 573-751-6400 FAX: 573-751-6010
RELAY MISSOURI for Hearing and Speech Impaired 1-800-735-2966 VOICE 1-800-735-2466

September 7, 2007

Topics: **Changes to WIC Checks Issued for Milk**
Change in the Issuance of Missouri WIC Checks

Dear Authorized WIC Retail Vendor:

This notice is to inform all authorized Missouri WIC vendors of upcoming changes to WIC checks. On **October 1, 2007**, the wording on the majority of WIC checks that include milk in the authorized food package will have the following change:

Reduced/Low Fat Milk (White) **will be changed to** Milk: Skim Thru 2% (White)

Note: *Skim thru 2% includes: skim, ½%, 1% and 2%*

WIC checks specifically issued for whole, 2% or skim milk only will state the specific type of milk authorized. Please ensure all store personnel involved in WIC transactions are aware of these changes and that they are only allowing the type of milk authorized on the WIC check. WIC customers may present and should be allowed to redeem WIC checks with the old and new forms of wording printed on the checks.

Beginning on October 1, 2007, the Missouri WIC program will be piloting the issuance of WIC checks for a **three (3) month period** to eligible WIC participants. The second phase will be implemented in **April 2008**. The Tri-monthly project is scheduled to be implemented statewide beginning on **October 1, 2008**.

Please ensure all personnel involved in WIC transactions are of aware of these changes and that they are closely reviewing the dates of use listed on each WIC check. This is to ensure that they **do not** accept WIC checks prior to the "First-Date-To-Use" or after the "Last-Date-To-Use" authorized on the WIC check. As outlined in the WIC Vendor Manual, Section 4, accepting WIC checks before or after the dates of use printed on the check is considered a fatal error. Our banking contractor will not consider payment of WIC checks with a fatal error.

Local WIC Providers in the following counties will be participating in phase one (1) of the pilot project:

Butler, Cole, Greene, Grundy, Holt, Jackson, Jefferson, Pulaski, Randolph,
St. Louis City, Stoddard and Webster.

Local WIC Providers in the following counties will be participating in phase two (2) of the pilot project:

> Andrew, Boone, Buchanan, Carroll, Clark, Clinton, Crawford, Dallas, Dent, Douglas, Franklin, Gasconade, Johnson, Knox, Lewis, Lincoln, Livingston, Macon, Miller, Montgomery, Newton, Putnam, Schuyler, Scotland, Shelby, St. Charles, St. Francois, St. Louis County, Stone, Warren and Wright.

If you have any questions, you may contact Bridgett Henderson, WIC Vendor Agreements and Training, at (573) 751-6204. It is an automated system, so at the prompt select "2" and then "1" and ask for Bridgett.

Sincerely,

Randy J. Walton
WIC Vendor Coordinator
WIC and Nutrition Services

RW:bh

c: Vendor File