



August 21, 2015

Dear MWA Members:

The Missouri WIC Association would like to invite you to become more involved with the association. It has come to my attention that many of you do not realize that you are all members of the Missouri WIC Association. Several years ago the By-Laws were revised and the membership due/fee was removed as a membership requirement. All Local WIC Agencies and employees are currently members of the association. One or more personnel per Local Agency shall serve as a contact person for MWA. Only one member per Local Agency can serve as a Board Member.

We and several Local Agencies participated in a Strategic Planning meeting with the Missouri State WIC Program in March 2015 and then the Missouri WIC Association had a Strategic Planning meeting June 2015. Many exciting ideas and plans came out in both Strategic Planning Sessions and we are going to work collaboratively to achieve some common goals. One such common goal is to facilitate this collaboration and communication between Local and State Agencies. Our purpose as the Association is to link Local WIC Agencies in a forum with the Missouri State WIC Program and the National WIC Association. We understand how difficult it is to be involved as Local WIC Agencies when our primary mission is to serve WIC families. That is why MWA is taking a leadership role this year by initiating and providing Quarterly WIC District Meetings. This opportunity will give all members the ability to be more involved and updated without the travel necessary to attend the Association's Board Meetings in Jefferson City. We will be soliciting you all regarding topics and issues for the Agenda. The MWA Board Member for the District will also be inviting our State District Teams, State WIC Director and State Staff to these meetings so that we as a group can identify and advise the State Office on WIC issues and provide constructive recommendations to the effect. Please join us and help us align the Missouri WIC Association with the Missouri State WIC Program and the National WIC Association.

We will be having informal elections of District Board Members Annually. Elections for Northwest, Northeast and Central Districts will be held in the even years. Elections for Southwest, Southeast and East will be held in the odd years. Election ballots will be posted on the MWA website. We are currently soliciting for candidates for the Southwest, Southeast and Eastern Districts. Please fill out the Board Member Application and submit it to Deb Cullum at cullud@lpha.mopublic.org or myself at breitr@lpha.mopublic.org no later than September 30, 2015. Please contact me by email breitr@lpha.mopublic.org or via the phone 660-747-6121 ext. 272 if you have further questions. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Breitenbecher

Missouri WIC Association President