

MI-WIC POLICY

Administration

1.0 Administration

Effective Date: 09/24/10

1.07B Lactation Consultant/Educator

LACTATION CONSULTANT/EDUCATOR

General Description

This individual has advanced training and knowledge of breastfeeding as indicated by lactation certification. This individual provides lactation counseling services to WIC Program participants with breastfeeding problems and may provide lactation consultation and training to WIC staff and Peer Counselors.

Examples of Work

- May provide counsel to women who express an interest in breastfeeding, developing strategies to assist them to initiate and maintain breastfeeding as desired.
- Sees breastfeeding WIC participants with breastfeeding problems, performs an assessment and develops an individualized care plan with the client and documents the encounters.
- Documents the breastfeeding education which is provided.
- Participates in the selection, planning, preparation and evaluation of teaching aids and materials.
- Conduct individual and group breastfeeding education sessions.
- May carry out portion of nutrition care plan.
- May provide training and guidance to other WIC staff.
- In agencies with WIC Peer Counselor Program:
 - Mentor and provides follow up and guidance to the peer counselor
 - Provides services to WIC clients who are referred by the peer counselor for issues that are out of the peers' scope of service.
 - Works with the Peer Counselor Supervisor to assess needs and recommend improvements to local peer projects.

Qualifications

Lactation Consultant:

An International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC) and has clinical experience in working with breastfeeding mothers and babies.

Lactation Educator, Specialist or Counselor:

An individual who has successfully completed a competency based lactation training program, such as the UCLA Lactation Education Program (CLE), the Center for Breastfeeding's Lactation Counselor Certificate Training Program (CLC) or Lactation Educator Consultants Certified Lactation Specialist (CLS), and has experience in working with breastfeeding mothers and babies.