







# **Nutrition Services**

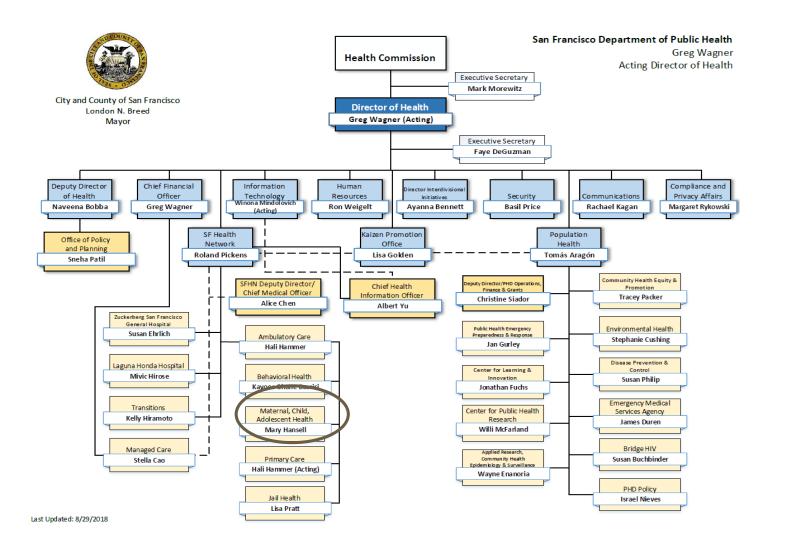
Presentation to the Health Commission

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**Director of Nutrition Services** 





### **Overview**

- Nutrition Program for Women, Infant and Children (WIC)
- Collaboration with Mayor's Office of Civic Innovation- Data SF, Civic Bridge and Google
- Addressing food insecurity among pregnant women
- Achieving health equity through breastfeeding support

### What does WIC Provide?

#### Checks to buy healthy foods



The average cash value of WIC checks per participant is about \$65/month/ participant



Nutrition & Health Education & Counseling





Breastfeeding Education and Support



WIC is for low-income pregnant and postpartum women, infants, and children up to age 5 who are at nutritional risk.



#### **Impact of WIC On Health Outcomes**

- Reduced risk for child abuse and neglect
- Reduced risk for preterm, low birth-weight, and very low birth-weight babies
- Reduced infant mortality rates
- Promotes physical and cognitive growth
- Improved diets
- Reduced long-term health care costs

#### Impact of WIC on the Community

- Impact on local food environment
- Improved access to fruits, vegetables, whole grains
- In 2017, WIC infused ~ \$7.5 million in federal funds into the SF retail food economy.

WIC Works: Addressing the Nutrition and Health Needs of Low-Income Families for 40 Years: <a href="https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/wic-works-addressing-the-nutrition-and-health-needs-of-low-income-families">https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/wic-works-addressing-the-nutrition-and-health-needs-of-low-income-families</a>

<sup>\*</sup>https://s3.amazonaws.com/aws.upl/nwica.org/WIC\_Public\_Health\_Role.pdf

# Challenge

- Compared to July 2016, there has been a 24% decline in 1-5 year old participating in SF WIC
- WIC serves approximately 9000 participants/month; 75% of participants are children

## Why Has WIC Participation Fallen of Since 2011?





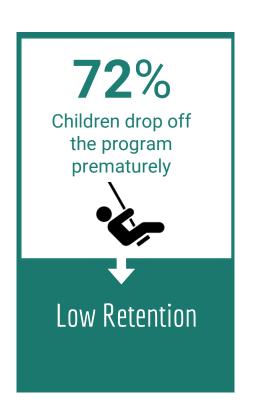




SF MAYOR'S OFFICE OF CIVIC INNOVATION

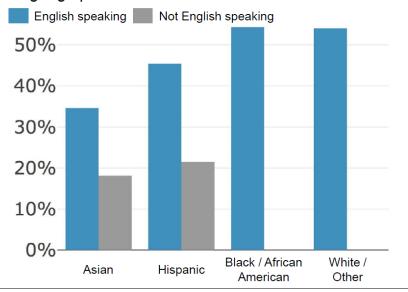
### DataSF Analysis: Participation & Retention trends- 2011- 2017





### **DataSF Data Analysis- Participation and Retention Trends 2011-2017**

Percent of participants who drop out of program by language preference



 Babies who are exclusively formula fed are 50% more likely to drop out

 English speakers are more likely to drop out regardless of their Race/Ethnicity

#### % Drop out by language

English speakers are 1.75 times as likely to drop out at 13 months

## Qualitative Data Analysis-WIC & Google Partnership

9 participant interviews, 8 expert interviews, 9 staff interviews, WIC tech evaluation and clinic observations

## Awareness of program

- Stigma
- Participants
   emphasize the
   benefits associated
   with infant formula
- Enrollment process can be overwhelming.

#### **Clinic Experience**

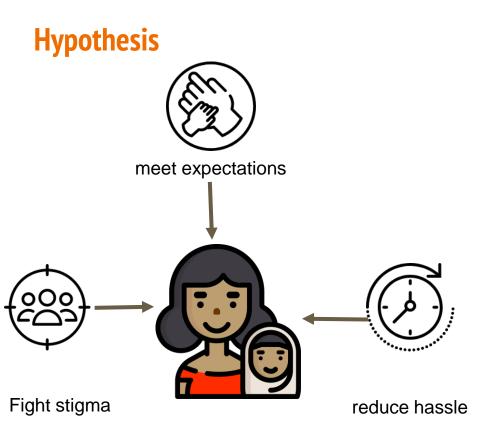
- WIC technologyexpectation gap
- WIC clinics- chaotic
- Staff interaction-make or break participant experience



**Staff Experience** 

## Shopping (state and federally controlled)

- Steep learning curve
- WIC-approved foods do not work for many families
- Embarrassment and shame
- Transportation of groceries
- Perceived value of other WIC benefits compared to infant formula

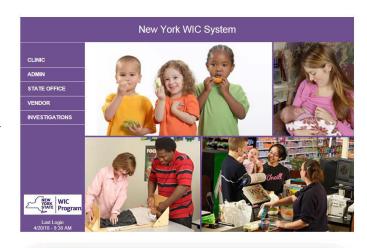


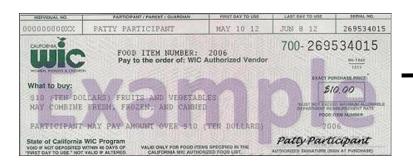
#### **Interventions**

- Playbook for clinic workflow
- Office refresh
- Participant satisfaction surveys
- WIC marketing video (support project)
- Automated check-in system; Online appointment scheduling; 2 way texting

### Management of Information System (MIS) and Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT)









## Addressing Food Insecurity Among Pregnant Women Enrolled in WIC

#### **Pre-survey & Intervention**

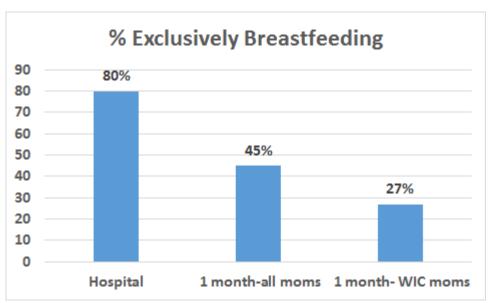
- Pre-survey- 69.44% low, very low or marginal food security
- Women with preferred language
   Spanish experienced the highest rates of food insecurity
- \$40/month vouchers for 6 months

#### **Outcomes:**

- Post- survey- Increased food security rates by 15%
- Improved participation rates among prenatal women



### San Francisco's Lactation in the Workplace Ordinance





www.sfdph.org/breastfeedingatwork

# **DPH Lactation Support Collaborative**

Achieving health equity by optimizing lactation support for all families in San Francisco

- Photo exhibit at City Hall
- Muni bus campaign
- Breastfeeding Support Groups
- Latch clinics





www.sfdph.org/sfbreastfeeds









Thank you!