## WIC Program

## WIC's Mission

To safeguard the health of low-income women, infants, and children up to age 5 who are at risk by providing nutritious foods to supplement diets, information on healthy eating, and referrals to health care.

## More about WIC

Food, nutrition counseling, and access to health services are provided to low-income, pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum woman, and to infants and children who are found to be at nutritional risk.

Established as a pilot program in 1972 and made permanent in 1974, WIC is administered at the Federal level by the Food and Nutrition Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Formerly known as the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, Children, WIC's name was changed under the Healthy Meals for Healthy Americans Act of 1994, to emphasize its role as a nutrition program.

The Pennsylvania Special Supplemental Nutrition program for Women, Infants & Children, better known as WIC, has a satellite office in the ECLC building. Staff from Meadville come to Titusville several times a month to distribute WIC vouchers to participants, provide nutrition education and follow-up for high-risk participants and to give breastfeeding support to women.

To be eligible for WIC, one must live in Pennsylvania, be at some level of nutrition risk as determined by the WIC professionals and be within income guidelines which are 185% of poverty level. All certification appointments for Titusville area residents are conducted in either Meadville or Warren. After being found eligible at this appointment, participants can go to the convenient ECLC site to pick up their food vouchers. All WIC benefits are at no cost to the participant. Women who are pregnant, breastfeeding up to one year after delivery, and those women who have recently delivered (no breastfeeding); infants; and children up to age five can apply for the program. WIC is for all kinds of families such as mothers, fathers, foster parent, grandparents, or a legal guardian of a child under age five can apply for that child.

WIC offers healthy foods such as whose grains, fruits and vegetables, jarred baby foods, canned beans, soy beverages and tofu, milk, eggs, peanut butter, juice, cereals, and infant formula.

Meadville WIC Phone Numbers 1-814-333-7080 1-800-210-6226