

Lishinski, Karen (DHHS)

From: Baker, Mary A. (DCH)
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 11:54 AM
To: Lishinski, Karen (DCH)
Subject: FW: Reply - Information requested about Flint, MI and lead in water issue
Attachments: Flint water supply

Importance: High

Wow, Karen – things are really moving fast now, the issue has gone up to the Secretary of the USDA! Here's an FYI for you (see below). BTW, I should've copied you on my message to Stan and Kristen after our conversation --sorry for the oversight but the message is attached.

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From: Bien, Stan (DCH)
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 11:47 AM
To: Bartholomew, Anne - FNS
Cc: Hillman, Bruce - FNS; Travis, Rashmi (DCH); Hanulcik, Kristen (DCH); Baker, Mary A. (DCH)
Subject: Reply - Information requested about Flint, MI and lead in water issue
Importance: High

Hi Anne – In follow up to our phone discussion, attached is info our staff obtained this morning on the water issue.

As discussed, this is a Public Health issue, not just WIC. As of now, there has been no 'official advisory' to not use the water and our SNAP clients can purchase water with their benefits if so needed.

Per the WIC Regs, we must have special justification to issue RTF of 'If the water is unsanitary or restricted'.

We will continue to work with our Lead Program and monitor the situation. Thank you.

Stan Bien, Director
 Michigan WIC Program - BFMCH
 Michigan Department of Health & Human Services
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 517.335.8448

From: Bartholomew, Anne - FNS [<mailto:Anne.Bartholomew@fns.usda.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 11:22 AM
To: Bien, Stan (DCH)
Cc: Hillman, Bruce - FNS
Subject: Information requested about Flint, MI and lead in water issue

Hi Stan,

Bruce suggested that I contact you directly. I did leave a voice mail. We have an urgent request from the USDA Secretary on behalf of a Congressperson about a problem with high lead levels in water supply in Flint, MI. We are wondering what steps, if any, that Michigan WIC has taken with respect to this issue. Has Michigan WIC determined a need to issue ready-to-feed for affected participants? If yes, is this being done on an individual basis or universally to those living in the affected area. The Secretary has requested a quick response so your attention to this request is greatly appreciated.

Many thanks,

Anne

Anne Bartholomew M.S., R.D.
Supplemental Food Programs Division
Branch Chief, Nutrition Services