
From: Travis, Rashmi (DHHS)
Sent: Friday, November 06, 2015 5:11 PM
To: Ruest, Karla (DHHS)
Cc: Moran, Susan (DHHS); Robinson, Mikelle (DHHS); Wells, Eden (DHHS); Bien, Stan (DHHS)
Subject: FW: More Flint Q's
Attachments: RTF Letters 2015.pdf; FW: WIC outreach

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Karla,

Stan, Kristin, and I had a call with our WIC office this morning. Others on the call included individuals from the regional and national office for WIC. They had questions in regards to our response on the Flint lead water situation. We explained what has been done up to date on the situation for both the general population in Genesee County and for WIC clients in Genesee County. Our message continues to be that we are monitoring the situation, we are working with the local health dept to assure that clients receive water filters and bottled water. We explained what outreach efforts are being done by the LHD in terms of blood lead testing, access to resources, access to water filters, educational materials, etc. They seemed pleased with our response to the event.

Several weeks back, a letter was send to the USDA from our congressional delegates regarding the availability of Ready to Feed Formula. Nick received a letter from the USDA. We drafted a response from Nick to the USDA. All of these letters are attached.

I've also attached another email we received today from Jacquelyn Scheinder from the Senate. We have not yet responded to these emails as we want to assure we have a consistent message. Stan has informed the Regional WIC office that we are preparing responses, but will get back with them on Monday.

Following the call, we received questions below from Senator Stabenow's office. It appears that Senator Stabenow's office would like to publicize the use of Ready to Feed Formula, which is not consistent with the current message. We want to make sure everyone is on the same page with the consistent message to clients as far as obtaining water filters and bottled water. Can you please help arrange a phone call with Katie Bergh from Senator Stabenow's, Jacquelyn Scheinder, our staff, and the regional WIC office.

I am in the office on Mon morning if you have additional questions in regards to this.

Thanks,
Rashmi

From: Bien, Stan (DHHS)
Sent: Friday, November 06, 2015 1:32 PM
To: Travis, Rashmi (DHHS); Hanulcik, Kristen (DHHS)
Subject: FW: More Flint Q's
Importance: High

See below and more questions from USDA, and will respond on Monday. Thanks

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From: Hillman, Bruce - FNS [<mailto:bruce.hillman@fns.usda.gov>]
Sent: Friday, November 06, 2015 1:23 PM
To: Bien, Stan (DHHS)
Subject: More Flint Q's
Importance: High

Sorry Stan...more questions from the Senator

A few follow up questions from Sen. Stabenow's office (Katie Bergh):

- Earlier in October, we had said there are 855 infants in WIC in Flint. Do we have a breakdown of how many are fully formula fed, partially breastfed, and fully breastfed?
- Can we get any numbers from the State on how many participants have exchanged their formula for RTF, and how many have been given vouchers for RTF?
- Do we have details on the proactive communication plan to reach out to all affected participants who may not be coming into the clinic? How and when will that communication happen?
- Katie has heard that there may be issues with retail availability of RTF, but she was not specific. Is the State aware of any stocking issues? Can participants get RTF at the clinic if it is not available at their WIC store, and are they informed of this option?

Katie also mentioned that Sen. Stabenow may do a press release or some other announcement to publicize the availability of RTF. Please let me know if we would have any concerns with that or suggestions for how she could be most helpful.