



To: Lt Governor Matt Denn

From: Mary Perkins, DPH Bureau of Contracts and Grants

Date: May 29, 2009

Re: **ARRA Stimulus Funds: WIC Technology Grant – Miscellaneous Projects**

Requested Amount: \$5,000,000

Application Due Date: June 26, 2009

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is making ARRA funds available for a variety of miscellaneous WIC technology projects to support Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT), accommodate food package changes, and other activities that further the technology goals of state-of-the-art, web-based systems that enable WIC program compliance and support EBT.

To determine which technology project might be the most appropriate for DPH WIC needs, WIC and Information Management Systems (IMS) staff reviewed WIC's most critical system needs. Several years ago, the current WIC data system was already identified as an antiquated mainframe data system. More recently, DPH WIC completed a feasibility alternatives analysis of data systems and determined that the best option for WIC data management in Delaware was to use a system transfer of the Maryland "WIC on the WEB" (WOW) system. The WOW is EBT ready, web-based technology.

The DPH WIC program plans to submit a proposal for **Grant Package #4 - FNS priority #7: New Management Information System (MIS) development/transfers** that are not funded through the USDA State Agency Model (SAM) project. Upon completion of the FNS required Implementation Advanced Planning Document (IADP) in August, and its approval, the WIC program will complete a Request for Proposal to modify and transfer existing software of the Maryland WOW data system to Delaware. The scope of this work will include system modifications, data conversion, training pilot and implementation as the State moves from the existing system to a new system environment.

