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**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**West Allis Health Department**

# Memo

**To:** Alderpersons

**CC:** Mayor Devine, Paul Ziehler

**From:** Sally Nusslock, Health Commissioner

**Date:** 3/27/2014

**Re:** West Allis Health Department Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program Expansion

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For more than twenty-five years the West Allis Health Department has provided a high quality, well respected Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program. WIC is a Federal program that provides vouchers for supplemental nutritious foods and nutrition education and counseling to low income pregnant women and children 0 – 5 years of age. Participants in the program also receive lead screening, immunizations and referrals to other health, welfare and social services if needed.

In February, Cudahy Mayor John Hohenfeldt contacted Mayor Devine requesting the City consider a joint partnership with Cudahy and Greenfield for the provision of WIC services. Mayor Hohenfeldt specifically requested that the West Allis Health Department assume and manage the City of Cudahy WIC grant.

Mayor Devine and I met with Mayor Hohenfeldt and Kim Whitmore, their Health Officer, to discuss this request. Ms. Whitmore is leaving her position in Cudahy and they will have interim Health Officer coverage from the Greenfield Health Department. It was felt that the timing was opportune to make this change. Mayor Hohenfeldt issued a formal written request to enter this partnership to the Mayor. Mayor Devine approved the request.

Mayor Devine and I believe the West Allis Health Department is well situated to take on this task. Currently the West Allis Health Department is successfully providing this same arrangement to the City of Wauwatosa. This opportunity expands our current partnership for providing shared WIC services. This transfer will add \$535,303.00 to our annual WIC budget bringing our total WIC grant to \$852,090.

In addition, the State of Wisconsin WIC Program staff fully support this partnership and have given the City of West Allis and the City of Cudahy the necessary approvals to move this transition forward. Formal transfer of the Cudahy WIC program funding and management to the West Allis Health Department will be effective July 1, 2014.

Through collaborative partnerships, such as this, we are able to leverage resources to provide cost-effective, high quality services that meet the needs of our respective communities.

**West Allis Health Department**  
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