

## **WIC PEER COUNSELOR**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This is specialized non-professional work that involves providing information and support to prenatal and breastfeeding mothers participating in the Department of Health's Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program. The work may be performed in clinics and from home and may include home visits. The work is performed under the general supervision of the Coordinator, WIC Program and in accordance with New York State requirements. Does related work as required.

### **TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:**

Provides guidance and support regarding the basic techniques and benefits of breastfeeding;  
Answer routine questions about breastfeeding and shares solutions that other mothers have successfully used to resolve problems and overcome challenges;  
Refers breastfeeding mothers, as needed, to the Coordinator, WIC Program, lactation consultants, nutritionists, physicians and nurses, community programs and agencies, other County departments, etc.;  
Provide and explain resources such as WIC pamphlets, simple breastfeeding books, videos, etc.;  
Attends prenatal and breastfeeding support group meetings;  
Maintains records of contacts with mothers (e.g., documents mothers' concerns, solutions that were discussed, resources provided, topics discussed, etc.);  
Attends meetings, conferences, and workshops, as assigned;  
Completes special projects, as assigned.

### **FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

Working knowledge of the benefits of breastfeeding; working knowledge of the techniques of breastfeeding; working knowledge of the benefits of and barriers to breastfeeding; ability to communicate effectively with prenatal and breastfeeding mothers; ability to develop basic solutions for breastfeeding problems; ability to complete basic forms; ability to understand instructions for breastfeeding counseling.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Experience breastfeeding at least one (1) child.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:** Upon appointment, and before providing any direct services to program participants, must complete WIC breastfeeding peer counselor training as required by the New York State Department of Health (i.e., NYS WIC Peer Counselor Curriculum). The required training must be completed no more than three (3) months from the date of appointment.

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Non-competitive