
TALWD NEWS

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TALWDNEWS

September 2019



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Alt: Kristen Parr

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Alt: Scherry Barnes

Southern: Meliza Garcia

Alt: Dalia Aguilar

In Loving Memory of Faye Walker Dixon

Earlier this summer, Faye Walker Dixon sadly passed away. Faye Walker Dixon was LA 26- City of Houston's first WIC Director and served in this role for 30 years! She was considered a staple to the Texas WIC Program and could be described as the most passionate and outgoing person. Please continue to keep her family in your prayers.



Faye Walker Dixon

Invitation & Announcement

VISITATION

Thursday, June 27, 2019

6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

*Sugar Land Mortuary
1818 Eldridge Road, Sugar Land*

SERVICES

Friday, June 28, 2019

*Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Ceremony
10:30 am*

Funeral Service

11:00 am

*The Church Without Walls
5723 Queenston Boulevard, Houston*

INTERMENT

Houston National Cemetery

Highlights from NBF Conference

In late August, WIC Staff from all parts of Texas traveled to Austin for the WIC NBF Conference at the Renaissance Hotel. This year theme was Refresh, Reconnect and Reinvent. The opening session featured special guests from FNS, DSHS and HHSC. The Opening Keynote speaker was Shana Merlin. She provided tips for Improv Skills for Work and Life. Key takeaway: communicate in a positive, flexible, open and clear format with people. The day ended with a networking reception with exhibitors.

The 2nd day began with a Customer-Centered Service Presentation from Allyson Young. She assured us that its okay to fail and we should take the "failure bow", but move on. Another great presentation was on Hospitality with KN. This presentation focused on Intentionally Creating Your Culture-don't allow behavior that is not acceptable. She also recommended that we identify the "Red Ants" of the team and address them. Discretionary Effort or giving people more than they expect really stuck out with me. Expected, requested and delighted. Service that is expected, people won't remember. Service requested- they might remember, but delighted service they will always remember. An example provided was walking someone out to their car with an umbrella. Going out of the way to service people. This presentation was very timely and challenged me to think about how we can offer delighted service within our LA. Later that morning, we heard from Charles Johnson, who shared his heartbreaking story about losing his wife after giving birth. There was not a dry eye in the room! This was a timely presentation and spoke to the real issues around maternal mortality problem that exist. The breakout sessions that were offered included Counseling Techniques, VENA Counseling and Supporting the Breastfeeding Mother, Opiod and Other Substance abuse, Special Formulas and Fortifiers, Selling the Value of WIC, Capturing WIC Stories on Social Media, Food Allergies, Pre-Gestational Diabetes and Reporting Child Abuse. This year's NBF Conference was enjoyed by staff this year and we look forward to attending in 2020.



Highlights from NBF Conference



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Childhood Lead Prevention Program Partners with LA 48



Harris County Public Health (HCPH) has partnered with LA 48 for the new Childhood Lead poisoning prevention initiative to bring lead screening to children seen in WIC clinics.

Currently, the program's lead screening services are available as a pilot at two Harris County WIC clinics—the Antoine and Shaver locations. Our clients are very gracious and want to know about it and have been open to receiving the service. Our lab assistants obtain height and weight measurements, screen for iron deficiency and then perform the lead testing, which is just a quick finger prick—just a second drop of blood.” Through this partnership, the program has identified children with elevated lead levels who have received case coordination as well as referral services for follow-up care and home lead abatement. If the the screening identifies elevated levels, the Lead Prevention Program refers clients out to their pediatrician or nearby clinic to get a venous test, which will confirm the test,” “Once they get a venous confirmation, the Lead Program partners with the pediatrician to make sure the pediatrician is following the guidelines set by DSHS to ensure the child is being re-tested at the recommended time. The Lead program also does home visits and educate parents not only on the environmental exposure, but also the dietary piece as well, because we know that a child who is poorly nourished tends to absorb more lead. This partnership has proved to be successful and we look forward to hopefully expanding to other HCPH WIC Centers in the future.

LA 48 "Showers" Moms

On Saturday, August 17th in celebration of National Breastfeeding Month, LA 48 hosted baby showers at each of our 11 WIC Centers. This provided a opportunity for us to celebrate pregnant women in our agency. Invitations were created and distributed to expecting mothers 1-2 months leading up to the events. The turn out was really great! We had cupcakes, games and prizes and it was really nice to see how happy this made our WIC participants. Many moms expressed how thankful they were to be celebrated.



Hope to see you soon at

TALWD Annual

Conference

10/15-10/17

El Paso