

WIC – EBT 202

What U Should Know
About
'Interfaces' – But Didn't Ask



By the Way . . .

- WHAT is an 'INTERFACE' anyway? ? ?
- Definitions of **interface** on the Web:
- (chemistry) a surface forming a common boundary between two things (two objects or liquids or chemical phases)
- (computer science) a program that controls a display for the user (usually on a computer monitor) and that allows the user to interact with the system
- the overlap where two theories or phenomena affect each other or have links with each other; "the interface between chemistry and biology"
- (computer science) computer circuit consisting of the hardware and associated circuitry that links one device with another (especially a computer and a hard disk drive or other peripherals)



What is a WIC Interface for EBT ?

- Depends on what Data + Systems U Have
- How many ?
- How Often ?
- How Data is used, stored, shared, etc.



SoU Interface 2 Data

- OK > then > now what ?
- How often to 'refresh/update'
- When would U know IF U have problems?
- How do U know IF problems?
- Who is monitoring and
- 'Who they going to call' >when issues



Why Have Interfaces ?

- Can SAVE U \$\$\$, Time, Effort
- Reduce Errors
- Increase Efficiency and Timeliness
- Can Work Well and Proven Success



Is it Easy to Do . . .

- Sometimes YES . . . Or maybe NO . . .
- Can depend on WHO owns the Data
- Or how do you ACCESS the Data
- How it is updated and When
- WHY do you need the data



Interfaces Can Be Great !

- When they are well planned
- BEGIN with the END in Mind !
- Have GOOD and Timely Data
- Have Data Systems (and staff) that can Communicate Well with Each Other!
- Are proven to be Reliable



WIC + EBT Can Have Many . . .

- WHY would you need/want multiple interface?
- When do NOT want an interface
- THINK – What is you Want vs. NEED
- And WHEN – can it wait for a day?
- WHO need it?



Sample of WIC/EBT Interface

- For WIC Client/Family Benefits
- For EBT Cards - status
- For Demographics
- For Redemption Data
- For Reports, Data Warehouse



Other WIC Interfaces

- For Data on Vendors/Retailers
- For Data Mining
- For GIS/Mapping
- For Multi-Program Data Sharing
- Medicaid, Immunizations, Motor Voter, etc.
- For Food Products and Authorization



How to Begin, What Do U Need

- Look at WHAT U Have Now
- Then – look at what U WISH U had
- AND – Must Have !
- Next – HOW can U get what U want
- How long to get it + Who give the OK !
- Map it out



Final Frontier

- Remember ...No One Said It Would Be Easy !
- ‘If you think you can, you will. . . . If you think you can’t, you’re right!’
- >Plan>Study>Design>Test>Implement><Retest>Evaluate>Monitor>Refine>



Questions, Comments, etc.

- Some System Interface are Integral to Having WIC EBT
- Some are 'not always easy' to develop
- Discus what U need and WHY
- ASK > ASK > ASK

