



**City Of Meriden
Department of Health and Human Services
Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program**

Job Opportunity- Bilingual Breastfeeding Peer Counselor

The City of Meriden is seeking a part-time, 19.75 hour per week, Bilingual Breastfeeding Peer Counselor to work for the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program. WIC serves to safeguard the health of low-income women, infants and children up to age 5 who are at nutritional risk. WIC provides nutritional assessment, education and referrals to health care and nutritious foods to supplement diets.

Responsibilities include providing basic breastfeeding information and support to WIC mothers. The candidate must be a current or past WIC client who has personal experience with breastfeeding. The candidate would work closely with the WIC Nutrition staff and follow all state and federal regulations and guidelines.

The person must have completed High School or have a GED. WIC and breastfeeding experience is required, as well as basic knowledge of computers to complete required charting. This is a grant-funded position with flexible hours including some evening hours. Travel to in-state meetings is required. The candidate must be able to speak Spanish. The salary is \$15.00 per hour. No benefits are provided.

Apply on line at <https://tinyurl.com/meridencareers> and you can e-mail resumes/applications to humanresources@meridenct.gov. Applications are available in the Meriden Human Resources Department, City Hall, 142 East Main Street. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. E.O.E.



**City of Meriden
Department of Health and Human Services
Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program**

WIC Bilingual Breastfeeding Peer Counselor

Grant-funded position
Non-union
19.75 hours per week

General Description

A Breastfeeding Peer Counselor is a paraprofessional support person who has personal experience with breastfeeding and are trained to provide basic breastfeeding information and support to other mothers with whom they share various characteristics, such as language, race/ethnicity, and socioeconomic status. This position reinforces breastfeeding recommendations in a socially and culturally appropriate context, and promotes breastfeeding as an important element in the healthy development of the mother and baby.

Supervision Received

Works under the general supervision of the WIC Coordinator.

Examples of Duties

Attends breastfeeding trainings and classes, as well as internal WIC and Health and Human Services meetings and trainings. Participates in continuing education opportunities.

Receives a caseload of WIC mothers and makes routine periodic contacts with all mothers assigned.

Gives basic breastfeeding information and support to new mothers, including communicating the benefits of breastfeeding, overcoming common barriers, how to handle common concerns and getting a good start with breastfeeding.

Counsels pregnant and breastfeeding mothers in the WIC office, by telephone or text messaging, at scheduled intervals determined by the WIC program.

Keeps accurate records of all contacts made with mothers in the CT-WIC program.

Respects each mother by keeping her information strictly confidential.

Refers mothers, according to clinic-established protocols, to other WIC staff, the client's healthcare provider, public health programs, social service agencies, or outside lactation services as needed.

May assist WIC staff in promoting breastfeeding in the community through special projects and duties as assigned.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Must be enthusiastic about breastfeeding and helping mothers enjoy a positive breastfeeding experience.

Good ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.

Good ability to maintain thorough and accurate program records.

Good knowledge in the use of personal computers and smart phones.

Ability to gain awareness of Federal and State WIC policies and procedures.

Good ability to develop and maintain effective working relationships with program participants, co-workers and external health and social service agencies.

Must be able to work independently and with others in the WIC office.

Qualifications

Graduation from high school or the equivalent.

Must successfully complete USDA breastfeeding curriculum in a time set by the Supervisor.

Must be a WIC client or past client who has breastfed at least one child for six months.

Special Requirements

This person must be a current or past WIC recipient and have breastfed for at least six months.

Must be able to communicate in Spanish.