

The PCAP & WIC Programs

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PCAP or Prenatal Care Assistance Program is a comprehensive model of care which covers prenatal care from conception to 8 weeks postpartum. It is a low income program that enrolls pregnant women at no cost regardless of their immigration status into comprehensive prenatal care. The services include Obstetric and Gynecological care, health education, nutrition assessment, social services, case management, HIV testing and counseling.

The PCAP Program is administered jointly by the office of Medicaid management and the Bureau of Women's Health at NYSDOH. The PCAP Program at The Brooklyn Hospital Center just received approval from New York State Department of Health for the Caledonian Health Center and the Williamsburg Family Health Center to be participants in the program as of March 1, 2003 . We now have a total of five PCAP approved sites - the Downtown Campus, Manhattan Avenue Family Health Center , La Providencia Family Health Center and the two previously mentioned sites.

The PCAP Program reaches a minimum of four thousand eligible women yearly at the hospital. With the PCAP approval, we receive enhanced reimbursement rates for prenatal care which changes from \$88.66 per visit to \$303.80 for the initial visit, \$155.87 for follow up visits and \$131.19 for postpartum visits. The annual PCAP reimbursement is approximately Three Million dollars.

WIC is a supplemental food and nutrition program for eligible women, infants and children by providing checks to purchase nutritious foods on a monthly basis. It is a low income program and covers pregnant women, infants and children up to five years of age. It also covers postpartum women for up to six months after delivery and breast feeding women for up to 12 months post delivery.

The WIC Program is funded by a grant from the Federal Government and the New York State Department of Health. The Brooklyn Hospital Center received additional funding in 2003 to provide WIC services to 5,500 participants every month. Our annual funding increased from \$460,000 to \$814,000 for the next year. In addition, the NYSDOH has funded expansion of the WIC Program to two new sites - the Williamsburg Family Health Center and La Providencia Family Health Center.

In the past, The Brooklyn Hospital WIC Program issues checks worth four million plus dollars annually but with the expansion, we plan to issue checks over six million dollars in the coming year.

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