

Appendix D3.1.
Federal Register 60-Day Notice Public
Comment 1

From: Hamdan, Samia - FNS <SAMIA.HAMDAN@fns.usda.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 15, 2016 10:12 AM
To: White, Akua - FNS; Skolmowski, Julie - FNS
Subject: FW: Comments on Paraprofessional Project Assessment
Attachments: FDPIR Paraprofessional Project Comments from Committee.docx

Hello Akua and Julie,

Here are the comments collected from the Midwest Nutrition Advisory Committee on the Paraprofessional project. Although many comments are about the project itself, I think these issues can help shape many of the questions for the assessment and how it is done.

In general, everyone is very interested about the project.

Samia

From: Hamdan, Samia - FNS
Sent: Thursday, September 08, 2016 4:27 PM
To: Betty Jo Graveen; Colleen; Darren Webb; Gloria Goodwin; Lucy Barnes; Mary Knope; Milisa Corbine; Pat Roberts; Peggy Bazant; Sharon Thompson; Joseph Vanalstine
Cc: Hamdan, Samia - FNS
Subject: Comments on Paraprofessional Project Assessment

Hi everyone,

I summarized the comments on the FDPIR nutrition paraprofessionals assessment project. I will send these to Akua. But first, please take a look at them by early next week. Let me know if there is anything I missed. I will send them to Akua at the end of next week.

Thanks,

Samia

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FDPIR Paraprofessional Project
Comments from MWRO Nutrition Advisory Committee
August 29, 2016

Concerns/Issues to Consider for Nutrition Paraprofessional Assessment:

- How will the interviews be conducted? Onsite? By phone? Will gain more knowledge if interviews are done onsite
- Cooking skills – many clients, including single adults and young parents, do not know how to cook. This is one of the major issues impacting the program.
- Tribes would really like a certificate when completing the program – this increases their credibility. Can USDA offer a certificate of some kind to paraprofessionals who complete the program?
- Need to consider special nutritional needs for elders
- Paraprofessionals should be from the Native community – they relate more to their own audience
- Utilize community colleges in paraprofessional training program, extension agencies
- Consider recruitment – it's very hard to get people attend nutrition ed/cooking classes without an incentive
- Consider technology –what are community members and paraprofessionals' comfort levels with technology? Is this a way to provide nutrition education to clients? Social media? Websites?
- Consider the special demographics when doing the assessment – elders, single parents, single people, etc.

In general, everyone was highly in favor of a nutrition training program for paraprofessionals