

We are so excited that our new report, *Improving the Nutritional Well-being of Women, Children and Families* is already having an impact on nutritionists working at the state level. On the Council's April 19 quarterly call, Jackie Charnley, Vermont's WIC Nutrition Coordinator, shared how she used the briefing paper to generate dialogue and action in the Vermont Department of Health. Jackie and ASTPHND member Molly Holland, another nutritionist in the Department, shared the brief with the Department's other nutritionists and then brought them all together for a brainstorming session. The group listed every program and venue that provides nutrition and physical activity services and education to families. They concluded that many opportunities are in place for the MCH population to receive public health nutrition services outside the WIC program. The group then met with Vermont's MCH Director, Breena Holmes, M.D., and shared with her all of the places that public health nutritionists are reaching families.

These Vermont nutritionists are raising the awareness of how much work public health nutritionists are doing. In addition, these folks plan to meet at least quarterly to support each other and to leverage their joint resources to have an even greater impact with their limited budgets.