# Promising Practices in WIC Shelf Merchandising

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# **Desired Impact = Your "Sales Pitch"**

### **Retailer Business Needs**

- Faster Checkout: Efficiency
- Increased Volume: Category Growth
- Increased Trips: Loyalty
- Increased Purchase of Non-WIC foods: Basket Ring

# **Shopper Benefits**

- Fewer Mistakes at Register (dual placement)
- Increased Redemptions of WIC foods
- Less In-Aisle Anxiety
- Shorter Shopping Trip/Time to Buy Non-WIC Foods

# **Success Looks Like...**



Atlanta Kroger 2014: Kroger Staff Perimeter location



Belle Vernon Walmart 2017: Kellogg Sales Rep Perimeter location



Miami-Dade County Independent Stores 2017: LA WIC staff Check out & Baby Aisle Location

# Staffing:

### **Retailers**

Large/Medium Chains: Category Managers/Buyers

- Identify key locations (this is not a chain-wide solution)
- Approach prior to annual shelf reset planning (Aug-Sept)
- Retail RDs could help you make connections

Small Chains/Independents: General Manager/Store Owner

Reassure them that your role is to support, not punish

Planogram Example

### **Manufacturers**

Sales Reps

- Ask for help connecting you to operations managers for large chains
- Help train them as your in-store teams "Category Captains"
  - Different manufactures will have different levels of influence to support your objectives

### **Local Agency Support**

Vender Liaisons (NSA funds)

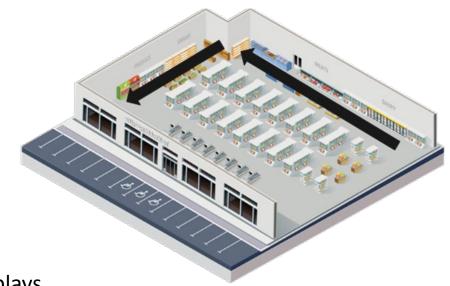
- Leverage LVL models or manufacturer training processes as a starting point
  - CA LVL program, FL Miami-Dade Project.

# **Vendor Collaboration**:

Encouraging and maintaining in-store improvements takes time, trust, and a talent for finding a win-win for shoppers and vendors alike.

### **Standard Store Call, a 5-Step Priority Driven Process**

- 1. Prep: Understand shopper needs and vendor business
  - Have the latest state/local redemption data
  - Be aware of WIC and store policies
  - Know the decision makers availability
- 2. Relationship Building: Check-in and discuss the objectives of your visit
  - Ask open-ended questions to get more information
- 3. Increase Display: Do a perimeter walk and identify opportunities for WIC displays
- 4. Create a "Shoppable Shelf": Walk the aisles and identify WIC planogram/ signage improvements
- 5. Collaborate: Ask what you can do to help
  - Discuss how your suggested changes would benefit business (use data from your prep work)
  - Offer tools for onsite "ambassadors" like employees, retail RDs, etc. (App signage, cross promotion tools, etc.)
  - Confirm any agreed upon changes and follow up items



# **For More Information**

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