



PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Community Foundation of Snohomish County Awards Babies of Homelessness \$30K Grant For COVID-19 Infant Safety Net Needs for Homeless Families

KING AND SNOHOMISH COUNTIES -- Diaper needs **disproportionately** affects families experiencing homelessness. Now with the declared pandemic, families experiencing homelessness are at higher risks to economic and health shocks and face more barriers to accessing basic needs, including diapers, formula and wipes.

The challenges for these families are severe and complex. It's not just a housing issue. For some families, there might be one or more underlying medical conditions. Families with children without stable housing cannot follow the basic recommendations of self-quarantining when needed, and they can also struggle to access water for handwashing.

In light of developing news and shutdowns related to novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), The Community Foundation of Snohomish County has awarded Babies of Homelessness a \$30,000 grant for emergency discretionary spending to support infants facing homelessness in our community.

The grant will be used to hire two part-time staffers, an inventory clerk/driver and a program manager to help carry the load. We will also use these funds to expand our existing services in Snohomish County.

Babies of Homelessness delivers diapers, wipes, pull-ups and formula and places them directly in the hand of families experiencing homelessness at emergency shelters, safe car parks, encampments, couch surfing (doubling-up) or in tiny homes.

During this pandemic, Babies of Homelessness has taken steps to protect the families it serves as well as its volunteers and staff. However, its core mission as a crisis-response team carries on. At present, Babies of Homelessness remains on the front

lines to serve families. It helps replenish much-needed supplies to places that provide temporary shelter to families with children.

The Coronavirus Response Fund at the Community Foundation of Snohomish County provides flexible resources to organizations in the region with communities that are disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 and its economic consequences. The fund is designed to complement the work of public health officials and expand local capacity to address all aspects of the outbreak as quickly and efficiently as possible. To date, more than \$1,200,000 worth of grants has been funded.

To learn more about the Community Foundation of Snohomish County:

<https://www.cf-sc.org/home/>

To learn more about Babies of Homelessness:

<https://www.babiesofhomelessness.org>