



PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Brittan Stockert, Executive Director  
(916) 715-7416  
brittan@babiesofhomelessness.org  
Aug 27, 2020

**Babies of Homelessness Sponsoring Drive-Up Donation Drive Sept 26 from 10 AM to 1 PM at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 16500 124<sup>TH</sup> Ave, Woodinville**

KING AND SNOHOMISH COUNTIES -- Diaper need **disproportionately** affects families experiencing homelessness. As the pandemic stretches on, 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.

Keeping a baby clean in a car, RV, shelter or encampment, is a struggle. According to the National Diaper Bank Network, an estimated 1 in 3 families struggles to provide enough diapers to keep a child clean, dry, and healthy. A wet or soiled diaper is major cause of a baby's discomfort. Reusing or leaving a baby in a soiled diaper for long periods of time can lead to health issues including rashes and infections.

But for many families facing homelessness, the either/or choice between putting gas in the car to get to work or purchasing another box of diapers is all too real.

Babies of Homelessness continues to be on the frontlines every day to provide families with enough diapers. However, this year, we are serving more children and families and more nonprofit agencies (shelters, food banks, tiny villages) are asking for our help.

We must increase our inventory of diapers to meet the growing need. On September 26, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. people can drive up and safely drop-off diapers to one of our volunteers standing by at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 16500 124<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Woodinville.

**We are accepting all sized-diapers and pull-ups but would prefer larger sizes (4 - 6). Open packages are ok. Please diapers only, no clothes, car seats, toys, furniture, etc.**



**DRIVE-UP  
DONATION DRIVE!**



**SATURDAY, SEPT 26**

**FROM 10 AM TO 1 PM**

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

**16500 124TH AVE NE WOODINVILLE**

**CONTACT-FREE DROP-OFF TO VOLUNTEERS IN PARKING LOT**

Bring diapers/pull-ups of any size, but prefer larger-sizes 4-6 (opened packages OK)  
Diapers only, no baby furniture, car seats, clothes, please.

“Now more than ever, the families we talk to are exhausted: mentally, physically, financially and emotionally,” says Brittan Stockert, Executive Director of Babies of Homelessness. “We know the stress families are feeling as they are wait-listed for housing and financial assistance. Ask a social worker or any organization and you will learn they all experience a similar problem each month. They do not have enough diapers for families with children. Diapers are the most requested basic need item, and organizations always seem to run out.”

Families can spend between \$80-\$100 per month on diapers for one child, but the cost can go up if there isn't transportation to big box stores. While the cost of food can be addressed with access to food banks or by tapping into public nutrition programs, little help exists to address diaper needs. Government assistance programs like food stamps and WIC don't pay for these kinds of essentials for kids. Cloth diapering is also an impractical option for homeless families without a washer. Local laundering services and transitional housing will not allow families to wash soiled diapers in shared washers.

Even in areas where diaper banks exist, families tell us that they are exhausted navigating the maze of bureaucratic agencies with extensive requirements (sometimes daily) for services. To access diapers, a family must have a means of transportation, figure out where to go and deal with time delays as they are placed on a waitlist. Areas like SeaTac, Renton, Federal Way, Kent or Everett do not have diaper banks making it difficult to access services. Babies of Homelessness fills this gap by delivering basic needs directly to families.

“More nonprofits attempting to solve homelessness need to recognize that families must first have their basics met to move beyond immediate needs and break the cycle of poverty,” says Stockert. “We are a ‘boots on the ground’ type organization. We venture to communities with major social, economic and health disparities; where families experiencing homelessness are the most invisible segment of the homeless population and disconnected from resources and support; places where other well-funded and well-staffed organizations do not go.”

We know that diaper need is a hidden consequence of poverty. Babies of Homelessness is holding the diaper drive during the National Diaper Bank Network's **National Diaper Need Awareness Week (Sept 21 to 27)** which draws attention to the issue of diaper need in throughout the United States.

Donations will be used to continue our mission of delivering diapers, wipes, pull-ups and formula and placing them directly in the hand of families experiencing homelessness at emergency shelters, safe car parks, encampments, couch surfing (doubling-up) or in tiny homes.

If you cannot drop off on Sept 26 at the designated donation site, please shop our Amazon Wish List. <https://a.co/1D7eMi1>

To learn more about Babies of Homelessness:  
<https://www.babiesofhomelessness.org>