



PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Brittan Stockert, Executive Director
(916) 715-7416
brittan@babiesofhomelessness.org
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Babies of Homelessness Awarded Grant Funds From Washington State Department of Commerce to Support State Diaper Programs

KING AND SNOHOMISH COUNTIES -- In the United States, there are an estimated 7.7 million children under the age of three who are considered low-income or poor. Children [under the age of three](#) represent 45% of children in low-income families and are more likely to live in poverty than any other age group. For young children, small things, like clean diapers, can significantly impact their health and well-being.

Diaper need is an often-overlooked material hardship when families cannot afford an adequate supply of disposable diapers to keep their children comfortable and dry. A pervasive public health problem in the U.S., one in three mothers reported diaper need. In Seattle, 16 percent of families with young children overall and up to 42 percent of Seattle's Black families, Indigenous families, and families of color.

Effective December 1, 2021, Babies of Homelessness will be the recipient of a \$55,000 grant to purchase diapers, wipes and other essential baby products for children age three and under for distribution to families in need.

As a member of the National Diaper Bank Network, Babies of Homelessness is dedicated to addressing diaper need for King and Snohomish County families. We provide an ongoing and reliable source for diapers and other essentials. Most diaper bank programs deliver either through a partner agency or directly to clients. Babies of Homelessness knows that families in need lack choices due to accessibility barriers and circumstances. Our value proposition is our delivery model. We uniquely offer three ways of accessing diapers, wipes and formula, leading to equitable economic opportunities and improved health for all children.

- **Direct service:** we are the only 365-day "direct" service program where families experiencing homelessness can call our intake line, order through a quick and compassionate intake process and receive an ongoing supply of diapers, wipes

and formula within 72 hours. Our motto is: no referral process, no waitlist – the child's needs are our top priority.

- **Partner distribution:** We provide a monthly bulk direct service delivery of thousands of diapers, wipes, and formula free of charge to fourteen South King and Snohomish County agencies specifically serving Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Asian, immigrant and refugee, and rural families. Partners do not have to pay for diapers, wipes, and formula. They do not have to spend time and gas money to shop for diapers, pay for storage for diapers, send thank-yous and tax receipts to donors, track inventory, and pay staff or afford volunteer time to gather diapers. All they have to do is fill out our form to spend time and resources devoted to providing top-notch case management to their clients.
- **Pickup Service:** We offer a pickup service twice a month in Bellevue, Kent, and Everett at bus-accessible locations for low-income and families experiencing homelessness. Families call our intake line to pre-order 30 days' worth of supplies and come to a local Park and Ride to pick up in Kent and Everett twice a month.

To learn more about Babies of Homelessness:

<https://www.babiesofhomelessness.org/>

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