



Cochise County Board of Supervisors

Public Programs...Personal Service
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Clerk of the Board

PROCLAMATION *Diaper Need Awareness Week* September 27 – October 3, 2021

WHEREAS, diaper need, the condition of an insufficient supply of clean diapers to keep babies and toddlers clean, dry, and healthy, can adversely affect the health and well-being of babies, toddlers, and their families; and

WHEREAS, national surveys and research studies report that one in three families struggles with diaper need and 48 percent of families delay changing a diaper to extend their supply; and

WHEREAS, infants and toddlers go through six to 12 diapers each day during the two to three years they wear diapers; and

WHEREAS, purchasing enough diapers to keep a baby or toddler clean, dry, and healthy can consume 14 percent of a low-wage family's post-tax income, making it difficult to obtain a sufficient supply; and

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, diaper banks across the country saw enormous increases in demand for diapers and expanded their distribution of diapers by an average of 86 percent; and

WHEREAS, a daily or weekly supply of diapers is generally an eligibility requirement for babies and toddlers to participate in childcare programs and quality early-education programs that enable children to thrive and parents to work; and

WHEREAS, without enough diapers, babies and toddlers risk infections and health problems that may require medical attention resulting in medical costs, and parents may be prevented from accessing childcare needed to go to work or school, thereby destabilizing the family's economic prospects and well-being; and

WHEREAS, the people of Cochise County recognize that diaper need is a public health issue, and addressing diaper need can lead to economic opportunity for the state's families and communities and improved health for children, thus ensuring all children and families have access to the basic necessities required to thrive and reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, diaper banks and their staff and volunteers continue to serve on the front lines of Cochise COVID-19 pandemic response helping families in our communities weather the crisis; and

WHEREAS, while experiencing double, triple, or greater increase in demand for diapers, due to the pandemic and economic shutdown, these diaper banks continue to do everything in their ability to increase diaper distributions and support children and families in need of immediate assistance; now

WHEREAS, now that our state is recovering from the pandemic, diaper banks are playing a critical role in supporting families and advancing our collective economic growth;

NOW, THEREFORE WE, the Cochise County Board of Supervisors, do hereby proclaim the week of September 27 through October 3 as **DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK** in Cochise County, thank the aforementioned diaper banks, their staff, volunteers and donors, for their courageous service during the crisis, and encourage the citizens of Cochise to donate generously to diaper banks, diaper drives, and those organizations that collect and distribute diapers to those struggling with diaper need, so that all of Cochise's children and families can thrive and reach their full potential.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 28th day of September 2021.

Ann English, Chairman

Peggy Judd, Vice-Chairman

Tom Crosby, Supervisor