



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2023-68

DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK

WHEREAS, diaper need, is the condition of not having a sufficient supply of clean diapers to keep babies and toddlers clean, dry and healthy; and

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

WHEREAS, without enough diapers, babies and toddlers risk infections and health problems that may require medical attention, and may prevent parents from attending work or school, thereby hurting the family's economic prospects and well-being; and

WHEREAS, Charles County recognizes that diaper need is a public health issue, and addressing diaper need can lead to 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, Charles County is proud to be home to trusted community-based organizations including Maryland Diaper Bank that recognizes the importance of diapers in ensuring health and economic stability for families; and

WHEREAS, the demand for diapers has increased due to the pandemic and economic uncertainty, these diaper banks do everything in their ability to increase diaper distributions and support children and families in need of immediate assistance.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM September 18 - 24, 2023 as **DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK** in Charles County and encourage residents to donate generously to diaper banks, diaper drives, and the organizations that collect and distribute diapers to those in need.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., *President*

Ralph E. Patterson, II, M.A., *Vice President*
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Gilbert O. Bowling, III
District 1

Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.
District 2

Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed.
District 3



Attest:

Christina L. Elkins, Assistant Clerk to the Commissioners