

National Advocacy Organization Awards \$100,000 In Grants to Nonprofits Addressing Diaper Need in U.S.

23 Community Diaper Bank Programs Named as 2018 Funds For Change Recipients

NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, UNITED STATES, March 12, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Twenty-three community-based nonprofit organizations that distribute donated diapers to struggling families in 15 U.S. states have been selected as the 2018 recipients of the \$100,000 Funds for Change grants awarded by the [National Diaper Bank Network's](#) (NDBN).

The initiative is the only national, competitive grant program dedicated solely to supporting community-based diaper bank programs in the U.S. Six of the 2018 recipients each received \$5,000 to \$10,000 grants, while awards of up to \$2,500 each were presented to 17 programs.

NDBN's Funds for Change grant program advances the work and expansion of local organizations serving families and children experiencing diaper need. Defined as the lack of a sufficient supply of diapers to keep an infant or toddler clean, dry and healthy, diaper need impacts one in three U.S. families, and is often a hidden consequence of poverty. Nearly 5.2 million babies in the U.S., aged three or younger, live in poor or low-income families.

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“Diaper banks and diaper pantries help provide local families with one of the most basic needs of every baby and toddler...clean diapers,” said Susan Van Ness, NDBN chief of programs. “Likewise, NDBN's Funds for Change grants help nonprofits meet some of their most basic organizational needs, which foster the long-term sustainability of these vital community-based programs.”

The 2018 Funds for Change grants are presented in two funding pools:



DIAPER NEED IN THE U.S.

1 IN 3 FAMILIES STRUGGLE¹

For every three family homes you pass by, one is affected by diaper need—regardless of age, race, or income.

1. As revealed by the Diaper Need and Its Impact on U.S. Families study conducted by Huggies and the National Diaper Bank Network.

One in three U.S. families (36 percent) are in diaper need.

- \$5,000 to \$10,000 in strategic investment grants to overcome geographic challenges, or program demonstration grants to scale proven projects nationally, and

- \$2,500 or under in micro-funding grants for a wide range of activities and projects including, research, marketing, website design, and board development, among others.

The strategic investment and program demonstration grants of up to \$10,000 were awarded to six organizations in six states:

- Connecticut - The Diaper Bank of Connecticut, New Haven, to prepare diaper banks with the skills and resources needed to conduct a successful economic analysis to demonstrate the economic value diaper banks provide to the individuals, communities and states they serve.

- Maryland - ShareBaby, Inc., Brooklandville, to launch and equip fully operational satellite diaper cupboards to serve hard to reach areas of Baltimore City.

- Missouri - Diaper Bank of the Ozarks, Springfield, to continue the expansion of its rural diaper distribution network serving families living in hard to reach areas of the Ozarks.

- New York - The HopeLine, Bronx, to sustain current storage facility to continue to receiving bulk diaper orders.

- Texas - Texas Diaper Bank, San Antonio, to help diaper banks establish proactive, effective disaster response programs based on the lessons learned by assisting families impacted by Hurricane Harvey in 2017.

- Virginia - A Small Hand, Toms Brook, to create and host a community-wide event centered around a Poverty Simulation, and raising awareness of diaper need in surrounding communities.

The micro-funding grants were awarded to 20 diaper bank organizations to fund proposed programs or projects that support a plan for long-term growth and sustainability. Grants were awarded to the following organizations (listed by state):

Colorado – WeeCycle, Denver; Georgia – Helping Mamas, Inc, Snellville; Illinois – Loving Bottoms Diaper Bank, Galesburg; Iowa – Eastern Iowa Diaper Bank, Cedar Rapids; Maine – Michael Klahr Jewish Family Services, Portland; New Jersey – Moms Helping Moms, Union; New York – Baby Steps Baby Pantry, Newburgh; Central New York Diaper Bank, Inc., Syracuse; Ohio – Sweet Cheeks Diaper



National Diaper Bank Network, and its more than 300-member diaper bank programs, work to reduce diaper need, which impacts one in three U.S. families.



National
Diaper Bank
Network

Bank, Cincinnati; Oregon – PDX Diaper Bank, Portland; Pennsylvania – Healthy Steps Diaper Bank, Harrisburg; Mitzvah Circle Foundation, Harleysville; Western Pennsylvania Diaper Bank, Pittsburgh; Texas – Austin Diaper Bank, Austin; Galveston Diaper Bank, Galveston; Waco Diaper Bank, Waco; and Virginia – NOVA Diaper Bank, Ashburn.

The 2018 recipients, including 13 first-time awardees, represent both newly formed and established diaper banks serving families in all sizes of communities throughout the country, from rural areas to major cities.

NDBN has bestowed more than 125 grants in excess of \$400,000 to local diaper bank programs, since launching Funds for Change in 2015. Because grant recipients are required to secure equal funding from local supporters, the dollars doubles in value upon implementation. To date, the net impact of NDBN's Funds for Change initiative exceeds \$800,000.

Funding for the initiative is made possible by a combination of support from individual and corporate donations to NDBN, as well as major gifts. Continued financial support will enable NDBN to expand the program into its fifth year.

About the National Diaper Bank Network: The National Diaper Bank Network (NDBN) is a nationwide nonprofit dedicated to eliminating diaper need in America, by leading a national movement to help meet the basic needs of all babies and their families...including access to clean, dry diapers and other material goods. Founded in 2011 with the support of Huggies®, the network raises national awareness of diaper need (#DiaperNeed) and supports the development and expansion of diaper banks in communities throughout the country. Its active membership includes more than 300 diaper banks, diaper pantries, and food banks located in 47 states and the District of Columbia. More information on NDBN and diaper need is available at www.nationaldiaperbanknetwork.org, and on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/DiaperNetwork) (@DiaperNetwork) and [Facebook](https://facebook.com/NationalDiaperBankNetwork) (facebook.com/NationalDiaperBankNetwork).

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