



Proclamation

NATIONAL DIAPER NEED AWARENESS

WHEREAS, Diaper need is the condition of not having a sufficient supply of clean diapers to keep babies and toddlers clean, dry, and healthy. This experience can adversely affect the health, mental health, and wellbeing of those that experience it; 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 the available supply. 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 provide the necessary supply. A daily or weekly supply of diapers is generally an eligibility requirement for babies and toddlers to participate in child care programs and quality early-education programs that enable children to thrive and parents to work; and,

WHEREAS, Many parents struggling with diaper need report missing an average of four days of work each month due to an insufficient supply of diapers, Parents missing work due to diaper need hinders their ability to provide for their family financially, creates workforce problems for small businesses, and hurts the local economy; 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 child care needed to go to work or school, thereby destabilizing the family's economic prospects and well-being; and

WHEREAS, The citizens of Houston and Harris County residents recognize that diaper need is a public health issue, and addressing diaper need can lead to economic opportunity for state families, communities, and improve health for all children. The City of Houston is proud to be the home of trusted community-based organizations including Northwest Houston Diaper Bank and Shincy Hiney Diaper Pantry that recognize the importance of diapers in ensuring health and providing economic stability for families and distribute diapers to families through various channels; and

THEREFORE, I, Sylvester Turner, Mayor of the City of Houston, hereby proclaim, the week of September 24th through October 2nd, 2022 as

NATIONAL DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK

in Houston, TX.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Official Seal of the City of Houston to be affixed this 3rd day of September, 2022.



Sylvester Turner
Mayor of the City of Houston