

# PROCLAMATION

## **Diaper Need Awareness Week**

**September 26 – October 3, 2021**

Whereas, diaper need, defined as not having a sufficient supply of clean diapers, 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 struggle with diaper needs and 48 percent of families delay changing a diaper to extend their supply; and

Whereas, 16 percent of Seattle families with young children overall, and up to 42 percent of Seattle's BIPOC families struggled to afford enough diapers to keep their children clean and healthy; and

Whereas, children go through six to twelve diapers each day and without enough diapers, babies and toddlers risk infections and health problems; 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, the people of Washington recognize diaper need as a public health issue, disproportionately harming Black families, Indigenous families, and families of color, and acknowledge that addressing diaper need will lead to more equitable economic opportunities and improved health for all children; and

Whereas, Westside Baby served on the front lines of Washington's COVID-19 pandemic response, providing 860,000 more diapers in 2020 than the previous year to help families in our communities weather the crisis; and

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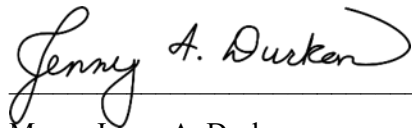
Whereas, Seattle is proud to be home to trusted community-based organizations that recognize the importance of diapers in ensuring health and providing economic stability for families and thus distribute diapers to families through various channels; and

Whereas, the Mayor and Seattle City Council thank the aforementioned diaper banks, their staff, volunteers and donors, for their courageous service during the crisis, and encourage the citizens of Seattle 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 Seattle's children and families can thrive and reach their full potential.

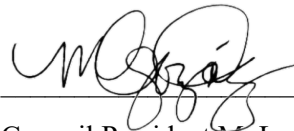
*NOW, THEREFORE, THE MAYOR AND THE SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL PROCLAIM*

*September 26 – October 3, 2021*

## **Diaper Need Awareness Week**




Mayor Jenny A. Durkan



Council President M. Lorena González



Councilmember Lisa Herbold



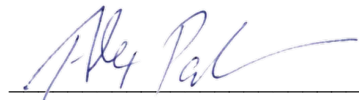
Councilmember Andrew J. Lewis



Councilmember Tammy J. Morales



Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda



Councilmember Alex Pedersen



Councilmember Kshama Sawant



Councilmember Dan Strauss