

BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor



RICHARD WHITLEY, MS
Director

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September 27, 2018

Rick Combs, Director
Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau
Legislative Building
401 S. Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701-4747
combs@lcb.state.nv.us

RE: Assembly Bill 340 Report

Dear Mr. Combs:

Please find attached the Biennial Report prepared by Nevada's Diapering Resource Committee, as developed through Assembly Bill 340 during the 79th Legislative Session (2017). This Committee was staffed by the Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) and was able to deliver on all items identified within the legislation. I want to commend all the members for donating their time, expertise, and attention to this issue.

The Committee arrived at several recommendations, all of which the Department of Health and Human Services is in the process of supporting and researching. One of the items noted was related to monetary support for bulk purchase of diapering supplies. The Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS) is analyzing available resources to see if funds can be dedicated for this purchase. This is the most applicable and feasible source of funds for such a purchase. DWSS plans to report out at the Committee's next meeting on the funding identified.

If you have any questions about AB 340 implementation, please contact Julia Peek, Deputy Administrator, DPBH at jpeek@health.nv.gov or 775-684-4224.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Richard Whitley".

Richard Whitley, MS
Director
Nevada Department of Health and Human Services

September 27, 2018

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Cc: Assemblywoman Olivia Diaz
Kim Amato, Diapering Resource Committee Chair
Paul Nicks, Acting Director Governor's Finance Office
Julie Kotchevar, Administrator Division of Public and Behavioral Health

A woman with dark hair in a bun, wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt, is holding a baby in a white onesie. They are in a field with hills in the background under a warm, golden sunset sky. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a lens flare effect.

2018

Nevada's Diapering Resources Committee

Biennial Report of Findings for
the Nevada Department of
Health and Human Services

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About the Committee

Recipients of public assistance and other low-income families have a lot to worry about, and Nevada leaders do not want diapers for infants to be one of those things. Reusing diapers, keeping diapers on too long, and not using diapers when needed can all create infection control and health issues for the child and family.



This led lawmakers to pass Assembly Bill 340 during the 2017 session, requiring the Department of Health and Human Services to appoint a committee to research opportunities to improve access to diapers and diapering supplies for recipients of public assistance and other low-income families. The law also authorized DHHS to take any necessary action to take advantage of opportunities to increase the availability of diapers and diapering supplies to these persons, such as work with diaper banks and similar organizations.

The Diapering Resources Committee is tasked with researching opportunities to increase the availability of diapers and diapering supplies to recipients of public assistance and other low-income families in Nevada. The Committee must research the use of money received by the Federal Government to carry out a program of public assistance or other program for which the Department is responsible and donations from private foundations, manufacturers of diapers and diapering supplies, and other sources.

The committee must consist of representatives of:

- The Department of Health and Human Services who have knowledge of programs offered by the department, including, without limitation:
 - programs relating to smoking cessation;
 - prenatal care visits and follow-up appointments for infants and children with providers of health care; and,
- Organizations located in Nevada that provide services relating to diapers and diapering supplies to recipients of public assistance and other low-income families, including organizations which advocate and provide referrals for such services.

The Appointed Members of the Committee are:

- Alex Pennington, Child Care Program Specialist, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services
- Alison Weir, Chief of Policy, Research, and Analysis, National Diaper Bank Network
- Ann McIntyre, Chief Executive Officer, The Partnerships for America- Cuddle Me Program
- Ashley VanBrocklin, Development Manager, Nevada Advocates for Planned Parenthood Affiliates
- Brian “Mitch” DeValiere, Maternal and Child Health Program Manager, Division of Public and Behavioral Health
- Denise Tanata, Executive Director, Children’s Advocacy Alliance
- Jessica Roew, Developmental Specialist 4, Nevada Early Intervention Services, Aging and Disability Services Division
- Joe Dibble, Nevada State WIC Program, Division of Public and Behavioral Health
- Julia Peek, Deputy Administrator, Community Services, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health

- Kayelynn Ogden, Program Manager, The Children’s Cabinet
- Kim Amato (Chair), Founder and Executive Director, Baby’s Bounty
- Pam Russell, Executive Director, Women and Children’s Center of the Sierra
- Shane Piccinini, Government Relations, Food Bank of Northern Nevada
- Tess Opferman, Steering Committee Chair, National Women’s Lobby

The Committee operates under bylaws that are accessible on the Division of Public and Behavioral Health Website at: <http://dpbh.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/dpbhnavgov/content/Resources/AB340-Diapering/DRC-Bylaws.pdf>.

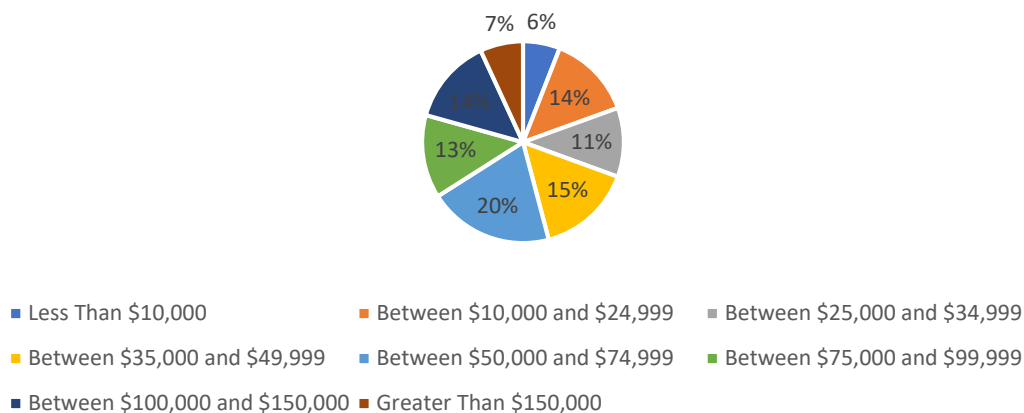
Past and future agendas and meeting minutes are accessible on the Division of Public and Behavioral Health Website at: http://dpbh.nv.gov/Resources/AB340-Diapering/Diapering_Resource_Committee_Meeting_Information/.

Nevadans Affected

According to the National Diaper Bank Network, 1 in 3 American families report experiencing a diaper need¹. A diaper need is defined as “the lack of a sufficient supply of diapers to keep a baby clean, dry and healthy.” The Network also notes that disposable diapers can cost up to \$80/month with an infant using 12 diapers per day and toddlers about 8 diapers. Most daycare settings require the parent to provide disposable diapers for the program, so this can cause parents to be unable to work or go to school as a result. Inability to properly supply diapers and diapering resources to the infant or toddler may cause health risks to the child due to elongated periods in a soiled diaper. Low-income families may also lack the resources and opportunity to purchase diapers in bulk to save on the cost per diaper.

On average, boys become potty-trained when they are 3 years old, and girls are potty-trained on average slightly before the age of 3 years. When trying to understand the population in need of diapering resources in Nevada, the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Analytics provided the Committee with data on children aged 4 years and younger by family income level. In 2016, Nevada had over 180,000 children aged 4 and younger. Of those children, over 40,000 were from families that fell below the poverty level.

Number of Children 4 Years of Age and Younger in Nevada by Household Income, 2016



Children 4 and Younger by Income Group and Poverty Status, 2016				
Nevada Overall				
Household Income	Number of Children 4 and Younger	Percent of Children 4 and Younger in Each Income Group	Number of Children 4 and Younger Who are Under the Poverty Level	Percent of Children 4 and Younger Under the Poverty Level
Less Than \$10,000	10,698	5.94%	10,698	100.00%
Between \$10,000 and \$24,999	24,407	13.55%	22,257	91.19%
Between \$25,000 and \$34,999	19,974	11.09%	5,794	29.01%

¹National Diaper Bank Network. <http://nationaldiaperbanknetwork.org/what-is-diaper-need/>

Between \$35,000 and \$49,999	27,608	15.32%	1,216	4.40%
Between \$50,000 and \$74,999	36,226	20.10%	85	0.23%
Between \$75,000 and \$99,999	24,036	13.34%	0	0.00%
Between \$100,000 and \$150,000	24,827	13.78%	0	0.00%
Greater Than \$150,000	12,411	6.89%	0	0.00%
Total	180,187	100.00%	40,050	22.23%

Clark County

Household Income	Number of Children 4 and Younger	Percent of Children 4 and Younger in Each Income Group	Number of Children 4 and Younger Who are Under the Poverty Level	Percent of Children 4 and Younger Under the Poverty Level
Less Than \$10,000	8,033	5.94%	8,033	100.00%
Between \$10,000 and \$24,999	18,638	13.78%	17,202	92.30%
Between \$25,000 and \$34,999	15,146	11.20%	4,791	31.63%
Between \$35,000 and \$49,999	20,848	15.41%	965	4.63%
Between \$50,000 and \$74,999	27,181	20.09%	85	0.31%
Between \$75,000 and \$99,999	18,682	13.81%	0	0.00%
Between \$100,000 and \$150,000	17,477	12.92%	0	0.00%
Greater Than \$150,000	9,270	6.85%	0	0.00%
Total	135,275	100.00%	31,076	22.97%

Washoe County

Household Income	Number of Children 4 and Younger	Percent of Children 4 and Younger in Each Income Group	Number of Children 4 and Younger Who are Under the Poverty Level	Percent of Children 4 and Younger Under the Poverty Level
Less Than \$10,000	1,577	5.89%	1,577	100.00%
Between \$10,000 and \$24,999	3,277	12.24%	2,945	89.87%
Between \$25,000 and \$34,999	3,283	12.26%	605	18.43%
Between \$35,000 and \$49,999	3,781	14.12%	151	3.99%

Between \$50,000 and \$74,999	5,654	21.11%	0	0.00%
Between \$75,000 and \$99,999	2,841	10.61%	0	0.00%
Between \$100,000 and \$150,000	4,063	15.17%	0	0.00%
Greater Than \$150,000	2,305	8.61%	0	0.00%
Total	26,781	100.00%	5,278	19.71%
Rural and Frontier Counties				
Household Income	Number of Children 4 and Younger	Percent of Children 4 and Younger in Each Income Group	Number of Children 4 and Younger Who are Under the Poverty Level	Percent of Children 4 and Younger Under the Poverty Level
Less Than \$10,000	1,088	6.00%	1,088	100.00%
Between \$10,000 and \$24,999	2,492	13.74%	2,110	84.67%
Between \$25,000 and \$34,999	1,545	8.52%	398	25.76%
Between \$35,000 and \$49,999	2,979	16.43%	100	3.36%
Between \$50,000 and \$74,999	3,391	18.70%	0	0.00%
Between \$75,000 and \$99,999	2,513	13.86%	0	0.00%
Between \$100,000 and \$150,000	3,287	18.13%	0	0.00%
Greater Than \$150,000	836	4.61%	0	0.00%
Total	18,131	100.00%	3,696	20.38%

Summary of State and Local Government Diaper Programs or Laws

The Committee reviewed current diapering resource laws and programs to better understand model programs and possible legislative options in Nevada. To summarize the information reviewed:

Enacted

California:

- Statewide -- AB 480, recognizes diapers as a supportive service for welfare-to-work. Passed in 2017. Provides \$30 each month to be used for diapers for child while in child care (5 days a week, 8 hours a day). (California WIC § 11323.2)
- San Francisco County/City – Department of Human Services contracted with a local diaper bank, Help A Mother Out, to provide diapers to resident families enrolled in CalWORKs (California's Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program). Families are allocated 4 bundles of 25 diapers each month which they can pick up all at once or throughout the week.
- \$10 million included in state's FY 2019 budget to be divided among four regional food banks (San Diego, Los Angeles, Fresno, and San Francisco) to develop and support diaper distribution programs.

Minnesota:

- Statewide – SF 2, \$125,000 was added in the state budget for the state's Food Shelf food distribution program to include diapers (final budget did not specify specific amount for diapers)

Proposed (all state level unless otherwise noted)

Illinois: HB 2620 -- proposed diaper subsidy of \$80 per month per child for children under 3 years old living in families with incomes of less than 50% of the federal poverty limit (FPL). Benefit would be transferred on an electronic benefit transfer (EBT) card.

Massachusetts: H3517/S2075 – proposes a study of the feasibility of providing a diaper assistance program

Missouri: HB 1288: proposes extension of a tax credit for businesses which donate to programs which benefit children, includes diaper banks explicitly.
HB2011: adds funding to the alternatives to abortion program for baby supplies, including diapers (Senate version kept the funding, but took out the explicit mention of diapers). Passed by both Houses, awaiting Governor's signature. (The governor has until July 15 before he has to sign.)

New Jersey: AR122 urges U.S. Congress and President to create program to subsidize diapers
SCR 53 urges Congress to provide for adult diapers through Medicare

New York: A05973/S01318 creates a subsidy of \$80 every three months for diapers for children under 2 years old enrolled in state social services program.

New York City (Municipal): INT 0380 would provide diapers at city run shelters, family resource centers, and other locations.

Pennsylvania: HB 1815 creates a Community Diaper and Incontinence Supply Bank Grant to support existing diaper banks or to help nonprofits start diaper banks in areas where there is a need.

HB 1820 creates a tax credit for businesses that donate to a qualified diaper bank or to the Community Diaper and Incontinence Supply Bank Grant

United States HR 1143, the Hygiene Assistance for Families of Infants and Toddlers Act would create a block grant program for states or nonprofits to create diaper distribution programs.
HR 5785, the Jobs and Justice Act, includes a grant for states to create a diaper distribution program.



Past Federal Government Grants for Diaper Provision

Connecticut Department of Education provides child care for student parents, including diapers.
Funded by a federal grant for support for Pregnant and Parenting Teens.

Connecticut The Diaper Bank of Connecticut provides diapers through a federal HHS grant for Early Head Start/Child Care partnership expansion.

Connecticut, New Jersey, and New York

FEMA Funding for Super Storm Sandy Relief included funding for diapers.

Current Resources in Nevada

The Committee compiled a list of known diapering resource organizations, contact information, hours, and eligibility information, if applicable, in Nevada. The list is as follows:

Southern Nevada:

1. **Baby's Bounty Website:** (<http://babysbounty.org/>)
Address: 3400 W. Desert Inn Road, #24, Las Vegas, NV
 - Must be referred by a social service program. Once accepted parents will need to take a safe sleep class.
 - After completion of class, participants will receive baby bundle including: crib, car seat, clothes, stroller, play mat, diapers and wipes.
2. **Las Vegas Diaper Bank Website:** (<http://lasvegasdiaperbank.org/>)
Address: 928 E. Sahara Ave (on the City Impact Center Campus), Las Vegas, NV
 - Walk-ins accepted Monday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
 - Parents/guardian will need to bring the following documents:
 - Child's name/Date of Birth
 - Proof of parenthood/guardianship.
 - Parents will receive 50 diapers and 25 pull-ups.
 - Parents can get diapers once every 30 days.
3. **United Labor Agency of Nevada (ULAN) Website:** (http://www.ulan.org/?page_id=17) Address: 1201 N. Decatur, Suite 106, Las Vegas, NV
 - Walk-ins accepted: Monday –Thursday, 8 a.m. – 11 a.m.
 - Parents/guardian will need to bring the following documents:
 - Nevada Identification
 - Social security card
 - Proof of address
 - Child's birth certificate
 - Child's social security card
 - Provides one package of diapers per child.
 - Parents can get diapers once every 30 days.
 - Agency also has food pantry on-site.
4. **Salvation Army Las Vegas Website:** (<https://www.salvationarmysouthernnevada.org/family-services>)
Address: 581 N. Main Street, Las Vegas, NV
 - May not have diapers all the time - availability based on donations.
 - Parents will need to be qualified, enrolled in Salvation Army (system) to receive diapers.
 - Parents/guardians will need to bring the following documents:
 - Identification
 - Social security card
 - Utility bill
 - Child's birth certificate
 - Child's social security card

5. **Catholic Charities Southern Nevada** Website: (<https://www.catholiccharities.com/>)

Address: 1501 Las Vegas Blvd North, Las Vegas, NV

- Families must be signed up with the C.C.S.N. food pantry.
- Families can get diapers and wipes once a month.
- May not have diapers all the time - availability is based on donations.

6. **Centro de Adoracion Familiar “CAF”** Website: (<http://iglesiacaf.org/>)

Address: 2900 E Patrick Lane, Las Vegas, NV

- Diaper availability and sizes are inconsistent.
- Parents/guardians will need to bring the following documents:
 - Identification
 - Phone number
 - Address
- Spanish speaking organization only

7. **First Choice Pregnancy Center**, phone number: 775-751-2229

Address: 1601 E. Basin Ave., # 303, Pahrump, NV

- Walk-ins accepted Wednesday- Friday, 1:00 p.m. – 4 p.m.
- Parents/guardians will need to bring the following documents:
 - Identification
 - Child’s social security card
- Provides (1) 25-40 diaper qty. package per child.
- Parents can receive diapers once a month.

Northern Nevada:

1. **Women and Children’s Center of the Sierra** Website: (<http://www.waccs.org/>)

Address: 3905 Neil Road, Suite 2, Reno, NV

- Hours: Monday and Wednesday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. and Friday 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Parents/guardians will need to provide:
 - Identification
 - Child’s birth certificate
 - A referral or letter from a social service agency (e.g. WIC, Welfare)
- Eligible parents/guardians can receive 4 packages of diapers in a 7-week period. A package of diapers should last for one week.
- Staff will also screen participants to determine other services, assistance needed.

2. **Casa De Vida/Wanda’s Closet** Website: (<https://casadevidareno.org/pages/wandas-baby-closet>)

Address: 1290 Mill Street, Reno, NV

- Walk-ins accepted: Tuesday -Thursday 10:00 a.m. - 2:40 p.m.
- Parents/guardians will need to bring the following documents:
 - Identification
 - Child’s birth certificate
- Provides (1) 10 diaper qty. package every three months.
- *Wanda’s Closet* also has clothes, car seats, strollers, beds.

3. **Catholic Charities Northern Nevada** Website: (<https://ccsnn.org/pages/resource-network>)
Address: 500 E. Fourth Street, Reno, NV
 - Walk-ins accepted: Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., closed (12 p.m. - 1 p.m.).
 - Typically, families will receive 10-12 diapers unless more is needed.
 - Parents can receive diapers and wipes every two weeks.
4. **Family Support Council of Douglas County** Website: (<https://family-support.org/>) Address:
1255 Waterloo Ln, Gardnerville, NV
 - Parents will need to take a 15-minute cash management class to determine eligibility.
 - Parents will receive 10-15 diapers.
 - Diapers are for families in crisis and frequency varies depending on parent's situation.
5. **New Frontier** Website:(<http://www.newfrontiernv.us/programs/detail-view/parent-child-assistance-program>)
Address: 1490 Grimes Avenue, Fallon, NV
 - New Frontier has a Parent-Child Assistance Program that provides diapers to women between the ages 17-42.
 - Women must be enrolled in New Frontier Treatment Center and maintain sobriety.
 - Diaper amount and frequency vary depending on their need and availability.
6. **Pershing Family Resource Center** Phone: 775-273-7308 (no website)
Address: 775 Cornell Avenue, Suite B, Lovelock, NV.
 - Walk- ins accepted: Tuesday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 - Parents/guardians will need to complete a welcome form and present identification
 - Provides (1) 20 qty. diaper package.
 - Parents can receive diapers every three months.

Community Survey

The Committee distributed an online survey to more thoroughly understand the resources and gaps for diapering resources in the state. The survey asked the following questions to community partners and stakeholders:

1. *Name of Organization*
2. *Organization Address*
3. *Organization Contact Person*
4. *Contact Person Email & Phone Number*
5. *Service Sites of Organization (List all locations, including zip code, for all sites where diapers and/or diapering resources are distributed)*
6. *Approximately how many families/individuals receive diapers and/or diapering resources from your organization each month (estimate/average).*
7. *Approximately how many diapers does your organization provide to families/individuals each month (estimate/average).*
8. *Approximately how many diapering resources does your organization provide to families/individuals each month (estimate/average).*
9. *Please list any eligibility requirements your organization may have for families/individuals to receive diapers and/or diapering resources, including any specific documentation requirements.*
10. *What are your primary sources for obtaining diapers and/or diapering resources to provide to families/individuals (1 = Primary Source; 2 = Second Largest Source; 3 = Third Largest Source; etc.)*
 - a. *In-kind donations of diapers and/or diapering supplies from the PUBLIC*
 - b. *In-kind donations of diapers and/or diapering supplies from PRIVATE COMPANIES*
 - c. *In-kind donations of diapers and/or diapering supplies from GOVERNMENT ENTITIES*
 - d. *Financial donations used to purchase diapers and/or diapering supplies from the PUBLIC*
 - e. *Financial donations used to purchase diapers and/or diapering supplies from PRIVATE COMPANIES*
 - f. *Grants and/or other financial assistance from LOCAL or STATE GOVERNMENT ENTITIES*
 - g. *Grants and/or other financial assistance from FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ENTITIES*
 - h. *Other Sources: Please explain*
11. *On average, how often do you run out of needed diapers and/or diapering supplies? (check only one)*
 - a. *Weekly*
 - b. *Monthly*
 - c. *Every 2 to 3 months*
 - d. *A couple times per year*
 - e. *Rarely*
 - f. *Never*
12. *Please provide any additional information that you believe will assist the committee in identifying gaps in the provision of diapers and/or diapering supplies to low-income families in Nevada.*

There was a total of 41 responses to the survey. A summary of the findings was:

- How many families/individuals receive diaper/diapering resources each month: *ranged from 0 to 350 families/individuals/month*
- How many diapers does your organization provide to families/individuals per month: *ranged from 0 to 14,000/month*
- Eligibility: *tended to relate to poverty level or enrollment in program*

- Primary sources for diapers/diapering resources: *in-kind donations from public*
- How often do you run out of supplies: *greatest response was every 2 to 3 months and never*
- Would your organization distribute diapers and diapering resources if they were available to you: *yes at 81.25%*

At the Committee meeting, it was noted that the reason that most of the agencies noted they rarely run out of diapers is that they control who can enter the program based on the supplies available. Therefore, noting an answer of “never” in response to running out of diapering supplies does not imply that there is no need. Further research should be done with waitlist or directly with low-income families to understand the true gaps.

Committee Recommendations

Per AB 340, by June 30th of each even numbered year, the Diapering Resources Committee shall provide the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services a report summarizing the research conducted on diapering supplies for low-income families in the state and recommendations on opportunities to address the needs identified. If the Director determines that any opportunities exist to increase the availability of diapers and diapering supplies to recipients of public assistance and other low-income families, the Director may take necessary action to take advantage of such opportunities, including, without limitation, in-kind donations and donations from private foundations, manufacturers of diapers and diapering supplies and other sources.



As indicated in this report, the Committee reviewed the current resources locally, statewide, and nationally related to diapers and diapering resources and have arrived at the following recommendations for the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services.

Increase the visibility of the need for the diapering supplies for low-income families.

- Continue to support the Diapering Resources Committee
- Participate in, and publicize, the annual Diaper Need Awareness Week the last week of each September.

Better promote the current resources that are available for low-income families to access resources.

- Through the Diapering Resources Committee survey to community providers, there were many resources identified that other agencies who serve the population were unaware were in operation and had the resource. There could be additional partnerships made to get the resources to the right population instead of duplicating effort.
- Promote the community diapering resources at locations where this population may already be accessing other resources and social supports. For example, offer information at WIC clinics, welfare and social services offices, food banks, and homeless and domestic violence prevention shelters.

Opportunities to directly supply funds or diapering supplies.

- The Committee was unable to find any additional monetary support for diapers.
- If the state had funds available to purchase diapering supplies, they could directly bulk buy diapers or diapering supplies at a level that an individual diaper bank or organization may not be able to do it. Diapers are non-perishable, so once purchased can be stored almost indefinitely. If there are even one-time appropriations for a bulk-buy purchase, this could be impactful.
- Sub-award funds to allow operating diaper banks and organizations that provide diapering supplies to clients to purchase needed items. This provides more ability to target purchases based on supply and demand locally.

- Assess the ability to offer a diaper waiver program for low-income families.

Support potty-training resources for families for toddlers to reduce the length of time a child needs diapers.

- The most limited supply of diapers are those larger sizes for toddler-age children (approximately age 3). For the programs that offer diapering supplies, it is encouraged that they also offer potty-training education and supports for the parent(s) and child to lessen the need for diapers at older ages.