



Bare Necessities, Inc., is a nonprofit organization based in Clinton and is the only recognized diaper bank on the CT Shoreline. The organization was founded in 2015 and coordinated by a team of committed volunteers working to help the estimated 1 in 3 families that have a diaper need, which translates to about 40,000 children in CT. Bare Necessities is helping currently helping 150 of the estimated 1200 families on the shoreline.

Bare Necessities, Inc. with the support of its donors and volunteers, tackles the complex issue of diaper need by providing diapers, wipes, pull ups, and adult briefs to families in need. The Community Diaper Program, a White House initiative between Jet.com and Cuties, allows them to purchase diapers and wipes at a reduced cost. They are fortunate to also have many community organizations collect diapers and wipes. The diapers and wipes are distributed to families in need through local food pantries and social service agencies. As the only diaper bank between New Haven and New London, they provide a critical service to families on the Shoreline. The organization's President Beth Serra Loud said the organization would not be able to help as many families as it does without "wonderful, passionate, and dedicated volunteers."

Diaper need is a public health issue. Parents who cannot afford to provide enough diapers for their child are forced to leave their baby in a soiled diaper longer than is appropriate. This frequently leads to diaper rash and may cause staph infections, urinary tract infections, and even outbreaks of E. coli. The stress of diaper need can also affect the outcomes in child development and ability to have enhanced educational opportunities.

Diaper need is also an education and employment issue. Without disposable diapers, children from low income families cannot attend daycare, and children miss out on valuable early childhood education. If children cannot go to daycare, parents may then be unable to work to provide for their family or further their own education. State Funded Day Care slots can go unused because parents cannot afford disposable diapers. Diapers are not covered under safety net programs such as SNAP (food stamps) or WIC (women, infants and children)

Maternal stress research shows that diaper need is the #1 stressor for mothers, even over the stress of affording food, or other essentials for daily living. This also points out a correlation between diaper need and maternal depression. Having to leave a crying infant in a soiled diaper can create a situation that has been linked to increased risk of child abuse.

How Can you Help?

- Sponsor a baby in need.
- Organize a corporate or community diaper drive
- Donate diapers and/or wipes by dropping them off at one of our partner drop off locations.
- Join our growing team of volunteers.
- Make a monetary donation. Monetary donations allow Bare Necessities to purchase diapers at a reduced cost through the Community Diaper Program. A donation of \$5 allows us to purchase 3 days of diapers for one baby.

For more information visit our website at www.barenecessitiesct.org or www.donationsfordiapers.org

203-928-7558
24 West Main Street - Suite 414, Clinton, CT 06413
bare.necessities.ct@gmail.com

Bare Necessities Inc. invites you to help keep babies clean, dry, and healthy at:

*Dinner Dance
for Diapers*



September 29, 2017 @6:30 PM

**The Clinton Country Club
128 Old Post Road, Clinton, CT**

Tickets \$75 per person

Sponsorship opportunities available.



Join us for an evening of delicious food, live music by Blues on the Rocks, games, raffles, silent auction, & many more surprises!

For more info visit our website:

donationsfordiapers.org or call 203.980.6635