

Who We Are

The Diaper Bank of Southern Arizona began 20 years ago in 1994 when a small consulting firm in Tucson began collecting diapers for a local crisis nursery over the holiday season. That first diaper drive went on to become an annual tradition, which later blossomed into a year-round collection effort to provide diapers to babies, the disabled, and elderly residents living below the poverty line in our community.

A sad statistic is that one in three children in Pima County is born into poverty, and food assistance programs such as SNAP and WIC don't cover diapers. Without money for diapers, vulnerable infants are at a much higher risk for infection and abuse. In surveys, 48% of parents admitted to leaving their babies in wet diapers for extended period, and 30% reported that they re-used soiled diapers. And babies aren't the only ones who suffer. Without access to adult incontinence supplies, low-income seniors and the disabled lose their dignity and their quality of life. They become virtual shut-ins!

Today, working through a network of social service providers, the Diaper Bank of Southern Arizona is able to reach those who can't afford to buy diapers. In 2013, we distributed 742,000 diapers, but there is a need for twice that many every year.

Our Mission

Diapers for children and adults through community partners

Our Vision

A community where every diaper need is met



PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Diaper Bank of Southern Arizona

4500 E. Speedway Blvd., Ste. 75
Tucson, AZ 85712
520.325.1400



Get In The Spirit



With a School Diaper Drive



Did You Know?

- ◇ Last year the Diaper Bank received requests for more than 1.5 million diapers and could only provide 742,000 which is about 42 percent.
- ◇ Regardless of age or size, 6 -10 diapers are needed daily (around \$100 per month).
- ◇ Food assistance programs such as SNAP and WIC don't cover diapers.
- ◇ 1 in 3 American moms struggle with diaper needs. They often cut back on food, utilities and other necessities to provide diapers for their babies.
- ◇ 1 in 3 babies in Pima County are born into poverty.
- ◇ Many daycare programs require parents to provide disposable diapers.

"I am so thankful for being able to get diapers. It has helped a lot because sometimes I would have to choose between getting diapers or much less food at the grocery store. Adelina F.

Motivate Them

- ◆ Challenge another class, grade or even school to collect diapers.
- ◆ Set a diaper goal for students to reach, and use a thermometer to show how close you are getting to your goal.
- ◆ Ask us for Eegee's or Peter Piper gift certificates to use as an incentive.
- ◆ Have each class collect the size for its grade. First graders collect newborns and 1s., fourth graders collect size 4, etc.
- ◆ Throw a fudgesicle or Tootsie Roll party for the class that raises the most diapers.
- ◆ Advertise it in your school newsletter.
- ◆ A central collection area decorated with baby items keeps the drive on everyone's mind. A playpen, crib or large box covered in baby gift wrap works great.
- ◆ A Tucson school did a penny drive and raised \$250! Because the Diaper Bank can buy in bulk, we'll count every 25¢ incash donations as one diaper donated.
- ◆ Another school did a donation match with a local business and raised over 7,000 diapers.
- ◆ Have a kick-off event to get everyone excited and then have a wrap up so the students can see their accomplishment. One school talked the principal into wearing an oversize diaper costume at their kick off.

101 more ideas
www.diaperbank.org

Teach Them

- ◆ How many diapers would you have to stack to reach the Moon?
- ◆ How much would 1.5 million diapers weigh?
- ◆ How much fluid can a single diaper absorb before leaking? Teachers are nothing if not creative. **Have fun with math, science and other academic areas** during a school diaper drive.
- ◆ A Diaper Drive is a great project for students to start learning goal setting, organization, and marketing skills
- ◆ Use the concepts of poverty and philanthropy in your lesson plans
- ◆ Discuss the cost of raising a family, minimum wage, the cost of diapers and other necessities as part of a family budget, and the importance of education.
- ◆ Teach your kids about how they can make a difference in the life of someone they don't even know.

