

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, diapers are a necessity for families with infants, toddlers, and people with medical conditions, and are important for happiness, cleanliness, and dignity, and the lack of a sufficient supply of diapers can adversely affect the health of those who need them; and

WHEREAS, national surveys indicate that one in two families struggle with diaper needs, and forty-eight percent of families report delaying changing diapers to extend their available supply due to the high cost, which is a struggle for people already experiencing budget constraints with housing, food, child care, and utilities, and purchasing enough diapers to keep an infant or toddler clean, dry, and healthy can consume as much as 8 to 14 percent of a family's post tax income; and

WHEREAS, with between twelve diapers a day required for an infant and eight per day for a toddler, there are no government programs or assistance available to low-income families for diapers, and further difficulty arises when they do not have the required supply mandated by childcare facilities, creating loss of income, and the lack of adequate diapers can cause health problems such as infections, so additional time off work and medical expenses can arise; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1926, **The Junior League of Tampa** is comprised of approximately 1,900 dedicated women committed to its mission of advancing women's leadership for meaningful community impact through volunteer action, collaboration, and training, and for almost a century, it has focused on making a better place for women, children, and families in the Tampa Bay community; and

WHEREAS, *The Junior League of Tampa Diaper Bank* combats diaper needs in Hillsborough County by encouraging residents to donate generously through diaper drives and events, and then they supply the needed diapers to programs that distribute them to families in the Tampa Bay area; this year, the organization is hosting a *Diaper Bank Launch Celebration Event* on Saturday, September 28, 2024, and it provides an opportunity for the organization to present the Diaper Bank as a separate nonprofit entity to even better serve the Tampa community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim September 23 – September 29, 2024, as

“DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK”

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to participate in programs such as The Junior League of Tampa Diaper Bank that assist the less fortunate families in our community with critically needed diapers.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 11th day of September 2024.



Jane Castor

Mayor