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Idaho Holds Inaugural Diaper Need Awareness Week

Community activities help fill the Idaho Diaper Bank and provide local families with diapers

BOISE, Idaho – The Idaho Diaper Bank is excited to join the efforts of other states in celebration of Diaper Need Awareness Week. Festivities will kick-off with Governor Butch Otter's signing of an official proclamation followed by number of events to help share the message of diaper need and provide Idahoans an outlet to help stop the problem.

"We started the Idaho Diaper Bank last year, and it has been amazing to see it grow here in the Treasure Valley," said Shawna Walz, executive director. "Idahoans are understanding the need in our state and getting behind the idea that no baby needs to wear a wet diaper because their parents are struggling between paying rent, buying food or getting diapers."

The celebration of Diaper Need Awareness Week is focused between Sept. 28 and Oct. 4, but activities to help grow the Idaho Diaper Bank are taking place throughout the month.

Friday, Sept. 11 - Scentsy's Rock-A-Thon:

The Idaho March of Dimes will be Scentsy's recipient this year for the annual Rock-A Thon. The Idaho March of Dimes will be giving all diaper donations to the Idaho Diaper Bank.

Monday, Sept. 28 - Kegs for Kause:

Payette Brewing Company will be donating 50 percent of beer sales sold from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to bring baby wipes, diapers or cash donations to be entered into a raffle.

Sept. 28 through Oct. 4 - Diaper Need Awareness Week

Governor Otter will proclaim Idaho Diaper Need Awareness Week. Individual organizations are hosting diaper drives to donate to the Idaho Diaper Bank. All businesses are encouraged to start a diaper drive throughout the month and donate to the Idaho Diaper Bank or an organization of their choice. help keep bottoms dry in our community.

The Idaho Diaper Bank will be giving away four La-Z-Boy recliners to mothers in need or organizations helping mothers. A short application is required. To get the application email info@idahodiaperbank.org.

"The Idaho Diaper Bank's mission is to meet the basic needs of Idaho children and families. Our vision is to ensure every diaper wearing Idahoan has access to the diapers and diapering supplies they need to remain clean, dry, happy and healthy. This includes babies, the elderly and anyone else who may need diapering supplies," explained Walz. "55-percent of Idaho babies age three or younger live in poor or low income families. By providing this basic need, we help eliminate at least one stress and additional financial burden."

The Idaho Diaper Bank is always accepting donations of new, clean disposable and cloth diapers. Money is also accepted and can be stretched even further thanks to partnerships with diaper manufacturers and the National Diaper Bank Network.

This is the first year Idaho is participating in National Diaper Need Awareness Week, but in 2014 20 states and 85 municipalities issued proclamations.

Families who are in need of diapers should visit the Idaho Help Line at 211, or IdahoDiaperBank.org to find more details and pickup locations.

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By focusing on diaper need, the Idaho Diaper Bank (IDB) works to meet the basic needs of children and families. Idaho Diaper Bank was established to provide diapers, diapering supplies and advocacy to families in need through partnership agencies. These agencies serve infants and families including childcare centers, crisis nurseries, domestic violence shelters, food pantries and faith based organizations. Idaho Diaper Bank seeks to engage Idaho communities to recognize that diapers are a basic need, along with food and shelter.