

Whereas, diaper need, the condition of not having a sufficient supply of clean diapers to keep babies and toddlers clean, dry, and healthy, can adversely affect the health and well-being of babies, toddlers, and their families; and

Whereas, national surveys and research studies report that one in three families struggles with diaper need, and 48 percent of families delay changing a diaper to extend the available supply; and

Whereas, infants and toddlers go through six to 12 diapers each day during the two to three years they wear diapers; and

Whereas, purchasing enough diapers to keep a baby or toddler clean, dry, and healthy can consume 14 percent of a low-wage family's post-tax income, making it difficult to provide the necessary supply; and

Whereas, a daily or weekly supply of diapers is generally an eligibility requirement for babies and toddlers to participate in child care programs and quality early-education programs that enable children to thrive and parents to work; and

Whereas, as the state legislature recently passed legislation to exempt diapers from sales tax in Florida for one year; and

Whereas, without enough diapers, babies and toddlers risk infections and health problems that may require medical attention resulting in medical costs, and parents may be prevented from accessing child care needed to go to work or school, thereby destabilizing the family's economic prospects and well-being; and

Whereas, the people of Delray Beach recognize that diaper need is a public health issue, and addressing diaper need can lead to economic opportunity for the state's families and communities and improved health for children, thus ensuring all children and families have access to the basic necessities required to thrive and reach their full potential; and

Whereas, through the important work of addressing diaper need, diaper banks play a critical role in supporting families, improving infant health and wellbeing, and advancing our local and state economic growth,

Now therefore, I, Mayor Sherry Petrolia of Delray Beach, do hereby proclaim the week of September 24th through October 2nd, 2022 as:

NATIONAL DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK

in the City of Delray Beach and thank all diaper banks, their staff, volunteers and donors, for their courageous service during the crisis, and encourage the citizens of Delray Beach to support organizations that collect and distribute diapers to families struggling with diaper needs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Delray Beach, Florida, to be affixed this 19th day of September 2022.

Shelly Petrolia
Mayor