



PROCLAMATION

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

WHEREAS, national surveys and research studies report that nearly one in two families struggles with diaper need, and 48 percent of families delay changing a diaper to extend the available 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, many parents struggling with diaper need report missing an average of five days of work each month due to an insufficient supply of diapers; 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 Shoreline 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, Shoreline is proud to be home to trusted community-based organizations including KidVantage that recognize the importance of diapers in ensuring health and providing economic stability for families and thus distribute diapers to families through various channels; and

WHEREAS, through their 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

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Keith Scully, Mayor of the City of Shoreline, on behalf of the Shoreline City Council, do hereby proclaim the week of September 18th through September 24th, 2023 as

NATIONAL DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK

in the City of Shoreline, thank the aforementioned diaper banks, their staff, volunteers and donors, for their courageous service during the crisis, and encourage the citizens of Shoreline to donate generously to diaper banks, diaper drives, and support those organizations that collect and distribute diapers to families struggling with diaper need, so that all of Shoreline children and families can thrive and reach their full potential.



Keith Scully, Mayor