

# Proclamation

**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 their supply; 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 obtain a sufficient supply; and

**WHEREAS**, a daily or weekly supply of diapers is generally an eligibility requirement for babies and toddlers to participate in childcare programs and quality early-education programs; and

**WHEREAS**, without enough diapers, babies and toddlers risk infections and health problems that may require medical attention, and may prevent parents from attending work or school, thereby hurting the family's economic prospects and well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, the people of Chapel Hill 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**, Chapel Hill is proud to be home to trusted community-based organizations including Diaper Bank of North Carolina 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**, Diaper Bank of North Carolina and its staff and volunteers served on the front lines of Chapel Hill's COVID-19 pandemic response helping families in our community weather the crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, while experiencing double, triple, or greater increase in demand for diapers due to the pandemic and economic shutdown, Diaper Bank of NC did everything in their ability to increase diaper distributions and support children and families in need of immediate assistance; now

**NOW THEREFORE**, we, the Chapel Hill Town Council, do hereby proclaim the week of September 27<sup>th</sup> through October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 as

## DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK

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

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE TOWN OF  
CHAPEL HILL ON THE TWENTY-NINTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER  
IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-ONE.



*Gam Hanna*