

# Diaper Distribution Pilot

## Pennsylvania



### Diaper Need in the United States

Diapers are essential for the health and well-being of babies and toddlers. Diapers alone can cost 8% of a person's total income if they are making the federal minimum wage, and parents and caregivers who don't have enough diapers often can't send their children to child care. This leads to missed days at work and school, missed early education opportunities for toddlers, and an increased likelihood of painful rashes and infections. A lack of diapers is not only a public health issue: it is a formidable obstacle to economic mobility for families with low incomes.

### About the Diaper Distribution Pilot

The [Office of Community Services \(OCS\)](#) at the [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services](#) announced its third cohort of Diaper Distribution Pilot grant recipients during National Diaper Need

Awareness Week. This program channels new funding to expand existing diaper distribution services, through the robust network of anti-poverty services that the OCS already provides through the Community Services Block Grant.

The Diaper Distribution Pilot puts another anti-poverty tool in the hands of community action agencies (CAAs) and their partners as part of their efforts to provide wraparound services for individuals and families with low incomes. The Diaper Distribution Pilot also connects families to economic mobility and family support services such as job training, educational support, housing services, and more. OCS understands that this Diaper Distribution Pilot is about more than just diapers – it is about lifting barriers to health and well-being for families with low incomes, and connecting those families with other programs that address the causes and conditions of poverty and help them take steps toward self-sufficiency.

### About the Grant Recipient

The [Community Action Association of Pennsylvania \(CAAP\)](#) represents the network of 43 community action agencies across the state, serving as a voice for local agencies and people with low incomes in Pennsylvania.

Using the \$1,197,707 awarded for the Diaper Distribution Pilot, CAAP will work to expand diaper distribution services at nine agencies and establish programs at five new organizations, serving more than 2,000 children throughout southwestern Pennsylvania.

The Community Action Association of Pennsylvania will partner with:

- [Western Pennsylvania Diaper Bank and their existing partners:](#)
  - [South Hills Interfaith Movement](#)
  - [Latino Community Center](#)
  - [UPMC Family Care Connection Center Turtle Creek](#)
  - [Highlands Family Center of Allegheny County](#)
  - [Northview Heights Family Support Center](#) [Healthy Start's Hello Baby Program](#)
  - [Westmoreland Community Action](#)
  - [Westmoreland Casemanagement and Supports, Inc.](#)
  - [The PACT Program](#)
- Five new partner organizations:
  - [Blueprints](#)
  - [Community Action Partnership of Cambria County](#)
  - [Fayette County Community Action Agency](#)
  - [Indiana County Community Action Program](#)
  - [Aliquippa Green](#)

### Diaper Need in Pennsylvania

- **29%** of Pennsylvania children have parents lacking secure employment.<sup>1</sup>
- **17%** of Pennsylvania children live in households below the poverty line.<sup>1</sup>
- The average annual child care costs for infants in Pennsylvania is over **\$13,000**.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Labor Women's Bureau

For more information about the Diaper Distribution Pilot or OCS's nine anti-poverty programs, [visit the OCS website](#). For more information about Community Action Association of Pennsylvania, visit their [website](#) or contact [Beck Moore](#), CEO.