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Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County (CAPSC), I respectfully submit this testimony in support of New Hampshire House Bill 1798 and the continued expansion of diaper assistance programs serving low-income families across our state.

CAPSC is a 501c3 Community Action Agency serving Strafford County and surrounding communities. Through funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families (HHS ACF), CAPSC administers the Diaper Distribution Demonstration and Research Pilot (DDDRP), the nation's first federally funded diaper distribution initiative for NH on behalf of the Community Action Network and our partners. This investment has allowed New Hampshire to scale a coordinated, data-driven diaper distribution system that reaches families consistently and efficiently through trusted community partners.

The results are both measurable and deeply human. In just two years, New Hampshire's diaper distribution program has enrolled more than 1,500 families and distributed over 1.4 million diapers statewide through 20 community partnerships. Families enrolled in the program routinely report saving hundreds of dollars per month—resources that can instead be directed toward rent, utilities, food, transportation, and employment-related expenses. At an average cost of approximately \$0.21 per diaper, this program represents a highly cost-effective intervention with immediate and sustained returns for children, caregivers, and communities.

Beyond the numbers, diaper assistance is a foundational support for child health, early childhood development, and family stability. Parents consistently tell us that reliable access to diapers reduces stress, prevents missed childcare and school days, improves hygiene and health outcomes, and allows caregivers to remain engaged in work and training. For families facing seasonal employment, housing instability, health challenges, or single parenthood, diaper assistance is often the difference between crisis and stability. I attached testimony from clients who the diaper program has helped.

Importantly, the HHS ACF pilot recognizes what families and providers have long known: diapers are not a luxury item. They are a basic health necessity. Yet, despite their essential role in preventing diaper rash, urinary tract infections, and avoidable emergency department visits, diapers are not currently covered by Medicaid at the federal level. As a result, families enrolled in Medicaid—often those with the lowest incomes and highest health risks—are left to absorb this unavoidable cost on their own. Unfortunately, this critical program ends September 29, 2026.

CAPSC urges New Hampshire legislators to support this bill and the critical state-level response to diaper need. Allowing Medicaid reimbursement for diapers would align policy with medical reality, reduce preventable health costs, and strengthen the effectiveness of existing public investments in maternal and child health. It leverages federal investment, strengthens community infrastructure, and addresses an unmet basic need that directly affects child well-being, school readiness, caregiver employment, and public health. Our existing network is ready to continue partnering with the State of New Hampshire to ensure that no child goes without this essential support.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued commitment to the health and stability of New Hampshire families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "EA Andrews Parker".

Betsey Andrews Parker, CEO

# Client Testimonials

"I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for your ongoing contributions of baby diapers. Your generosity has truly made a difference in our lives, both financially and emotionally. Knowing that we have a steady supply of clean diapers for our little ones has brought us immense peace of mind. Your kindness has not gone unnoticed, and we are profoundly grateful for your support. Thank you once again for your thoughtful donations."

*-The Freeman Family*

"You guys are amazing big help with diapers I wouldn't know what to do if u guys weren't around knowing the struggle my family faces every month thank you from my family to you."

*-Stephanie*

"The Diaper Grant Program has helped us significantly, we have been able to save hundreds of dollars a month since we started receiving diapers, it helps us especially during off seasons for both mine and my fiance's jobs as I substitute for the Headstart program and he does Line striping and seal coating. We don't run out of diapers anymore because when we start to get low another box comes and stocks us back up before we run out, so that reduces the stress of potentially running out and not having the funds to get more, and helps us be able to focus on other things that are needed. I would definitely recommend the program to other parents that don't know about it has it is extremely helpful. "

*-Tiffany*

# Client Testimonials

“My Early Head Start worker enrolled me in the diaper program. This program has made an insane impact on my life and my children’s lives by saving us hundreds of dollars. I had my son in March 2022 and shortly after my husband was scheduled for a vasectomy, and we planned on having no more children but apparently right before that I became pregnant with our second child. Our second child was born August 1, 2023. On August 5, 2023 I had to have my husband leave because I found out he had a substance abuse problem. He spent eight months in rehab and is now living in sober living, which cost more than disability check. I have basically been a single mom for her entire life and she’s almost one years old and for half of my son’s life and he just turned 2. I also have two teenagers so having the ability to get diapers delivered to me for free has been a huge weight off my shoulders. I appreciate this program and Head Start and Early Head Start in general for everything you guys do. This program has made such a great impact on my life and my children’s lives. thank you so much for offering this help! We are forever grateful and it came at such a perfect time in our lives. Thank you”

*-Danielle*

“I am one of the people who got diapers from your program. Thanks so much for doing this! With inflation going up, it's a huge help to not have to worry about diapers. There's enough in each pack to last the whole month, and signing up was super easy. We get diapers at the beginning of every month. Thank you once again!

*-Zarina*

# Diaper Distribution Program

Through 20  
partnerships  
across New  
Hampshire,  
we've achieved  
so much in 2  
years



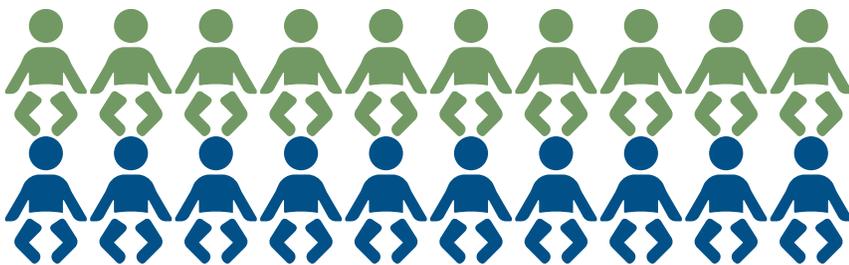
**1556**

Families have been  
enrolled in the  
Diaper Distribution  
Program.



**1,426,522**

Diapers have been  
distributed

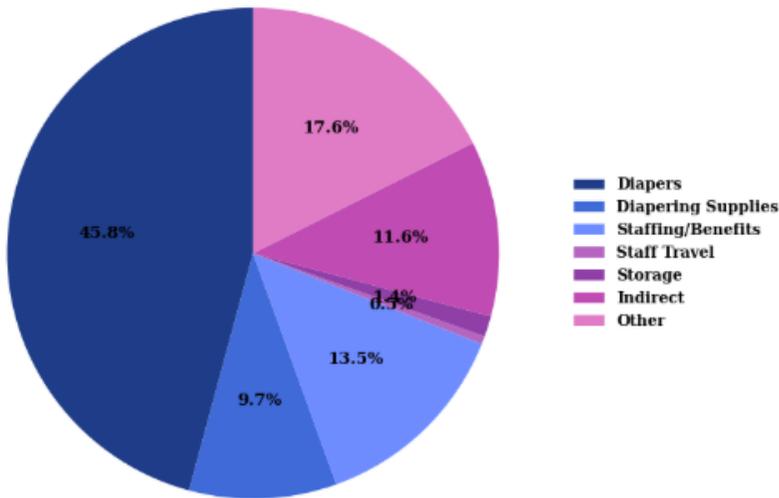


184 families were newly  
enrolled just last quarter.



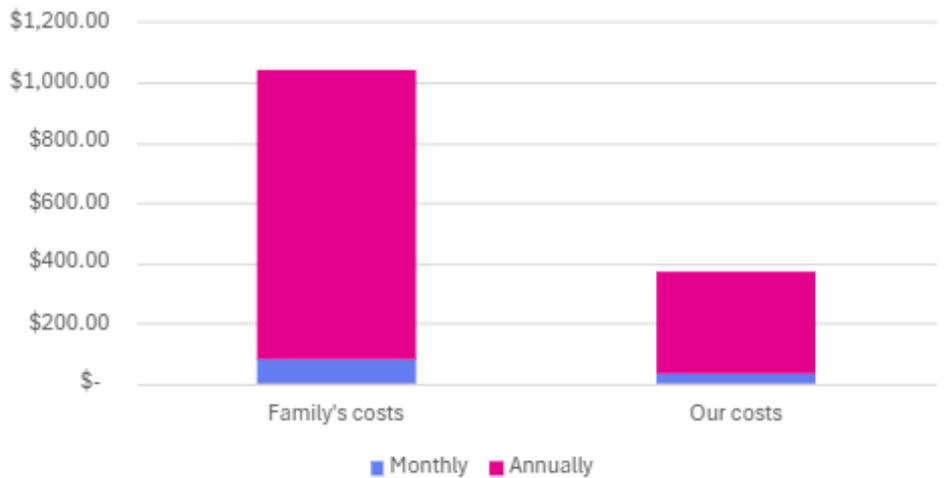
# Diaper Distribution Program

## Annual Expenses



For \$979,878.56 in 2025, New Hampshire families received enough diapers and wipes to keep their children dry and attending school, so they could focus on their other needs.

## Keeping costs low per child



## In Kind Contributed

