

Diaper Bank FAQ

Why did the JLC start the Diaper Bank?

The Junior League of Charleston (JLC) chooses initiatives that can have the biggest impact on the community. Each year, we assess the unaddressed needs in the Charleston area, and when those needs change, we address them with new initiatives and projects. Research shows there is an immediate and often overlooked need for diapers in the tri-county area. The purpose of the Junior League of Charleston Diaper Bank is to help bridge the gap between what families need and what they can afford.

How will the recipients be identified and qualified?

The Junior League of Charleston Diaper Bank is responsible for collecting diapers throughout the community, and then packaging them based on size and type. JLC will distribute diapers to partner organizations who will then distribute diapers to families in need. Each pack of delivered diapers will have the Junior League of Charleston Diaper Bank logo on the repackaged diapers.

Is there government assistance for diapers?

There is little to no money available for diapers. The current WIC system (Women, Infants, and Children) covers medical needs through the Health Department and allots funds for food supplies such as baby food, formula, cereals, and other basic grocery needs. WIC does not cover diapers, wipes, bottles, feminine hygiene, soap, cleaners, etc. SNAP, formerly food stamps, does not cover diaper purchases either.

Does the JLC Diaper Bank accept cloth diapers?

At this time, we are only accepting disposable diapers. Our research indicates that many families in need of diapers use laundromats, and many laundromats do not allow cloth diapers to be washed in their facilities. However, we will continually evaluate our efforts and the community need.

Does the JLC Diaper Bank accept other baby items?

We will accept unopened packaged of baby wipes or diaper cream. However, we are not accepting other baby items at this time.

What's next for the Junior League of Charleston Diaper Bank?

There are many areas where JLC hopes to make a change through training and lobbying efforts. We plan to distribute materials about potty training and the importance of proper hygiene to the Diaper Bank recipients. Additionally, we would like to be at farmers markets and other community events informing our community about the diaper need and where they can donate. In the future, we hope to coordinate with community organizations locally and nationally that are trying to change the policy so that basic diaper-related needs are better met by the SNAP and WIC programs.