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No one has ever made it through life without someone else's help. We're proud to be partnering with communities around the globe in the fight against poverty.

Our approach to solving the poverty crisis has evolved over the years. We're driven to expand the ways we can enable people to self-sufficiency, meeting basic needs to create long-term change for communities.

This means our warehouse is always buzzing with activity, ideas and items that will satisfy basic needs for many impoverished families. We'd love to invite you to visit the warehouse; we especially have exciting volunteer opportunities for groups large and small.

In 2019, we saw tremendous success as we really settled into our new warehouse space - which we are already filling. Thanks to our generous donors and supporters for all the impact made last year.

STEPHANIE BOWERS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Poverty paints a variety of pictures, some more common than others. Children in a third world country, thin and wearing tattered clothes. Homeless men and women, dirty and huddled on a street block in a large city. A person desperately holding a sign asking for money.

Less popularized but yet serious poverty scenarios look a bit more commonplace than you might imagine. Consider:

- Single moms, trying to maintain a job to support her two young children.
- Victims of disaster, displaced after a catastrophe.
- Families living in rural areas that lack access to resources.
- Elderly struggling with incontinence. Girls missing school because of their period.

These are all examples of real stories that we’ve encountered more than once as we strive to achieve to end the choice between food and other basic hygiene needs.

**Why? Because diaper need is real, and poverty is fairly commonplace.**

In Wisconsin, 44 percent of young children live in low-income families. Nationally, the poverty rate is 11.8%, which totals 38.1 million people living in poverty in our country. Looking further, globally more than 700 million people live in poverty, surviving on less than $1.90 per day.
COULD IT HAPPEN TO ME?

“My husband had to find a new job and my hours were cut all in the same week,” one mother wrote to us.

“We knew we were counting down the days until our last disposable diaper, so I went to a local thrift store and found 2 cloth diapers. They were in pretty bad shape so we have been dealing with soaked clothes every couple hours.”

When the diapers weren’t through the wash in time, she said they’ve found other innovative ways to get by, such as wrapping a kitchen towel around a cloth prefold.

Thankfully, this family found out about Jake’s Diapers Individual Aid program — where we provide cloth diapers on loan.

“We never thought that we would have to choose between food or diapers, but we did. I find comfort knowing that Jake’s Diaper’s box is on its way to rescue me from this awful last two weeks of diapering.”

— Mother enrolled in Jake’s Diapers Individual Aid program
606,964

*Items Distributed*
This includes disposable + cloth diapers, single use and reusable menstrual products and adult care essential items.

17,978

*Lives Impacted*
This includes children 5 and younger receiving diaper help, girls and women receiving menstrual items and, elderly receiving adult care essential products.
We serve more than 40 partner organizations focused on helping those struggling with poverty, and through them provided cloth or disposable diapers to help 5,574 kids.

We partner with school districts and agencies focused on serving women in order to distribute menstrual products through our On the Dot program.

Sometimes deteriorating health can impact hygiene needs as we age. Our program ensures elderly age with dignity.

Jake's Diapers is a hands-on operation and hosted more than 1,000 unique volunteers during 2019. Our warehouse, lovingly called the Hope Factory, serves as a great opportunity for volunteer groups large and small to help sort, prep and package items for delivery.
There are countless organizations taking action to solve poverty. Yet, problems persist.

Organizations often face difficulties in adequately providing for the many people in need.

The question then is: How do we make it easier for those working to positively impact the global poverty crisis?

Through diapers, period products, and other basic hygiene needs that we know alleviate financial burdens. This creates room for organizations, caregivers and families to afford more basic needs.

Often times, the people we serve have previously made the decision to sacrifice their hygiene health to instead afford food or shelter. We aim to eliminate that choice, and with it provide an extra sense of dignity while that person pursues financial self-sufficiency.

We need to support programs that provide resources in order to help individuals better their situation.

Here’s one example: A mother and daughter enrolled in a program that provides childcare and support for the mother to work towards self-sufficiency, attended only sporadically.

The pair began receiving diapers from the Greater DC Diaper Bank, one of Jake’s Diapers national partners. Subsequently, their attendance at this support program improved.

“The case manager asked her what had changed - they were delighted to be seeing more of the family! The mother replied that with the diapers coming from the program, she could now afford bus fare to get to the program regularly,” Lisa Oksala of the Greater DC Diaper Bank. “As a result, her daughter benefitted from early education and nutrition programs, and the mother got to work more closely with the case manager to address other challenges in her life.”
GIVE NOW

DONATE ONLINE

Your monthly or one-time donation will make a difference in the ways you've just read about. Thank you.