

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Carrie Moulder

news@jln.org

[504-891-5845](tel:504-891-5845)

JLNO FORMS PARTNERSHIP WITH AGENDA FOR CHILDREN TO DISTRIBUTE DIAPERS TO FAMILIES IN NEED

September 5, 2017, New Orleans, LA – The Junior League of New Orleans (JLNO) is partnering with Agenda for Children to increase diaper distribution to families in need. Agenda for Children serves as the Louisiana Department of Education’s contracted child care resource referral agency for 14 parishes in Southeast Louisiana, working to improve the quality of early care and education through resource and referral for families and by providing professional development to early childhood educators.

“Last year, JLNO distributed over 540,000 diapers throughout Southeast Louisiana. Our new partnership with Agenda for Children enables us to work with childcare centers throughout our community,” said President Kristen Koppel. “We can increase our distribution and serve even more families and children in need.”

“Agenda for Children is delighted to partner with JLNO to provide families at child care centers with diapers”, said Dr. Anthony Recasner, CEO of Agenda for Children. “The Diaper Bank is a critical resource for families trying to make ends meet.”

About Diaper Need

- 5.3 million children in the U.S. aged three or younger live in poor or low-income families.
- In Louisiana, 56,000 children under the age of three are in families that earn less than 100% of the federal poverty level.
- 1 in 3 American families report experiencing diaper need.
- Disposable diapers cost \$70 to \$80 per month per baby.
- No state or federal child safety-net program allocates dollars specifically for the purchase of diapers.
- Without transportation, buying diapers at a convenience store rather than a large “big box” store can significantly increase the monthly cost of diapers.
- Infants require up to 12 diapers per day, toddlers about 8.

Negative Consequences of Diaper Need

- Babies who remain too long in a soiled diaper are exposed to potential health risks.
- Most childcare centers, even free and subsidized facilities require parents to provide a day’s supply of disposable diapers.
- Cloth diapers are not accepted at the vast majority of child care centers.
- Many parents cannot go to work or school if they can’t leave their babies at childcare.

“Our hope is through this partnership with Agenda for Children, there will be fewer families and children with unmet needs allowing for other opportunities to advance their well-being like early education,” said Community Council Director, Holly Paczak.

The community can help close the diaper gap. JLNO accepts disposable diapers at its Headquarters, located at 4319 Carondelet Street between the hours of 8:30 am and 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, or financial donations via its website. Visit www.jlnodiaperbank.org to learn more.

The Junior League of New Orleans is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

###