Diaper Fact Sheet

Facts you would never know….

- Federal programs that supply monies to low income families (LINK card, WIC) do not allow for the purchase of diapers.
- Regardless of age or size, 6-10 diapers are needed daily (costing around $100 per month)
- According to research from the National Diaper Bank Network, families nationwide report an average shortfall of 50 diapers per month, per child. This statistic is true for Evanston, as well.

For Infants and Children, it's a matter of hygiene and access to good childcare.

- One in 3 families in America struggle with diaper need. They often cut back on food, utilities, and other necessities to provide diapers for their children.
- To be eligible to attend daycare programs, parents and caregivers are often required to supply diapers for their children.
- Without the option of daycare, parents are unable to attend school or work, adding to the family’s financial stress.
- Financial stress negatively impacts parent-child interaction.
- Babies who are left too long in a dirty diaper can develop serious health concerns such as diaper rash or skin infections; these babies tend to be more irritable.
- Research conducted at Johns Hopkins University found that feelings of guilt or shame associated with not being able to care adequately for her baby significantly impact a mother’s mental health.

I care about the environment. Why supply disposable diapers instead of cloth?

- Some families don’t have in-home washing machines and most laundromats do not allow cloth diapers to be washed at their facilities.
- Many childcare facilities require disposable diapers