



*The Louisville Diaper Campaign (LDC) is an organization founded by students at the University of Louisville School of Medicine focused on addressing the diaper crisis in our community.*

### **Diaper Need Prevalence**

- ◇ **1 in 3 families** in America are in need of diapers
- ◇ Diapers are not covered by SNAP or WIC
- ◇ The St. Bernadette Diaper Bank in Prospect is the **ONLY** diaper bank located in Kentucky
- ◇ This diaper bank distributes 72,000 diapers annually to families in and around Louisville

### **Health Consequences**

- ◇ Families struggling with diaper need may have to stretch diapers, which can involve allowing babies to wear wet diapers for extended periods of time, removing feces from soiled diapers and reusing, or air-drying urine-soaked diapers and reusing
- ◇ This practice is associated with an **increased risk of UTIs and diaper dermatitis**

### **Asking About Diaper Need**

- ◇ Screening should be performed at **ALL infant well child checks**, particularly at the newborn and two-month visits to help catch diaper need as early as possible
  - Ask at the same time as screening for food and housing insecurity
  - **“Have you ever run out of diapers and were unable to purchase more?”**
  - If answer is yes, provide them with the **list of diaper assistance resources**
- ◇ Additional red flags which should prompt a question assessing diaper need:
  - Infant has **recurrent diaper rashes or UTIs** with no other explanation
  - Infant soils diaper during the exam and parents don't have a clean diaper to change them into
  - Family also struggling with **food or housing insecurity**

#### Resources:

Smith, M., *et al.* Diaper Need and Its Impact on Child Health. *Pediatrics* 2013, 132:2, 253-259.

Lestari, H.T., *et al.* The Impact of Duration of using Superabsorbent Diaper on the Incidence of UTI in children 2014, 4:180.

Bonifaz, A., *et al.* Superficial Mycoses Associated with Diaper Dermatitis 2016, 181:9, 671-679.

· **RAISING DIAPERS TO RAISE HEALTHY BABIES** ·

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