



2022 Partner Handbook and Agreement

Organization mission

The Athens Area Diaper Bank strives to eradicate diaper need by providing diapers to low-income families in the Athens area, while raising public awareness of diaper need and its impact. AADB provides diapers to families through partner agencies that serve in Clarke, Barrow, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Madison, and Jackson counties.

Diaper need and its impact

Diapers are expensive, costing nearly \$1,000 every year, yet government assistance programs like food stamps, Medicaid, or WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) do not help families cover the cost of diapers. This means that 1 in 3 families in the United States struggle with “diaper need,” which is an inability to provide a consistent supply of diapers for one’s child. Families experiencing diaper need often resort to re-using dirty diapers or keeping a baby in a dirty diaper far too long, which can lead to diaper rash and infections. In addition, low-income families must spend money on diapers instead of other necessities like food, rent, or clothing. Finally, without a clean supply of diapers, families cannot send their children to daycare. Without daycare, parents can’t go to work or school. With over 8,000 children at risk of experiencing diaper need in Athens area, many families in our community struggle with diaper need.

More information and stats on diaper need can be found on the website for the National Diaper Bank Network (www.nationaldiaperbanknetwork.org), of which we are proud members.

Our partners

We rely on partner agencies to distribute diapers to families in need. We never distribute diapers directly to families. Our partner agency model allows us to keep our overhead low, but most importantly it means that our diapers get into the hands of families experiencing a wide variety of circumstances and situations. Some partners serve families dealing with financial emergencies and hardship, while others serve foster families, survivors of domestic violence, moms recovering from addiction, etc. We appreciate our partners and the amazing work they do throughout the community. We consider ourselves lucky to be a small part of each partner’s mission.

Our requirements

Each of our partner agencies must be a Sec. 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, government agency, or religious organization. Partner agencies must submit an application each year to receive diapers from AADB. Within this application, we ask for information about the organization’s mission and population served, as well as information about how AADB diapers would be distributed, how many children will need diapers, ability to serve as walk-in requests for diapers, etc.

Upon approval of their AADB partnership, each partner agency is given an allotment for how many children their organization can request diapers for each month. This number will also place each partner in a different Partnership Tier (below). Each Tier has different requirements, which serve to reinforce our partnership and ensure that support can flow in both directions. Many diaper banks around the country charge service fees to their partner agencies, so our modest requirements are an alternative to that. Partners can communicate with AADB as each of their requirements are met throughout the year, and AADB will track and follow up with partners to ensure participation.

<p>Tier 1: 1-20 children/month Value of diapers/year: \$200-4,000 Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social Media or newsletter acknowledge at least 2 times in 2022• Participation in quarterly diaper impact surveys for your organization
<p>Tier 2: 21-50 children/month Value of diapers/year: \$4,200-9,990 Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social Media or newsletter acknowledge at least 2 times in 2022• Participation in quarterly diaper impact surveys for your organization• Diaper drive by your organization to benefit Athens Area Diaper Bank OR one group volunteer shift with us during the year
<p>Tier 3: 50+ children/month Value of diapers/year: \$10,100 Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social Media or newsletter acknowledge at least 2 times in 2022• Participation in quarterly diaper impact surveys for your organization• Diaper drive by your organization to benefit Athens Area Diaper Bank OR one group volunteer shift with us during the year• Client surveys once/year (at least 50 participants)

All organizations must sign our partner agreement, which lists specific and common-sense parameters to receive our diapers. This packet and the partner agreement should be shared with all staff and volunteers that assist with distributing diapers within a partner organization. This agreement must be renewed at the beginning of each calendar year. Violations of the partner agreement can result in termination of the partnership.

Our diapers

The Athens Area Diaper Bank receives diapers from two sources: diaper drives and purchasing. We encourage community members, organizations, churches, etc. to collect diapers throughout the year, but especially during Diaper Need Awareness Week each fall. We also purchase diapers through low-cost suppliers that give steep discounts to National Diaper Bank Network members, allowing us to stock our shelves according to our partners’ needs.

For distribution, our diapers are bundled into packs of 25 diapers by our volunteer force. These packs are a convenient size to store and hand out to families. **We provide 2 packs of diapers (1 pack of pullups) for each child each month.** This 50-diapers-per-child-per-month is the standard that the National Diaper Bank Network suggests to fill a family's "diaper gap". There are a few exceptions to this: 1) organizations that are shelters will receive double this (4 packs diapers and 2 packs pullups) or 2) if a partner only wants one pack of diapers/child (usually space issues, logistics, etc). Additional exceptions can be considered, as our partners know their families and their needs well.

Diaper distribution

AADB prepares requests for over 25,000 diapers each month. Diaper distribution occurs on the first and third Friday of each month, from 10am-12pm, from our facility. Exceptions to this will be communicated ahead of time, or with an individual partner. Our distribution process is as follows:

1. Partners place their order via the Human Essentials/PartnerBase website no later than close of business on the Tuesday before the desired Friday pickup. Instructions on setting up your Human Essentials/PartnerBase account and placing an order will be provided.
2. AADB confirms the diaper request and sends a confirmation email to the partner, confirming the pickup date and order details.
3. AADB packs the diaper orders into re-usable nylon bags (big laundry bags). We ask our partners to return them at their next diaper pickup.
4. On distribution day, partners pick up diapers from our location at 130 Conway Drive, Suite E, Bogart, Georgia 30622.

Partnership/Distribution FAQ

Do we need to pick up diapers every month?

No! Many partners will order a lot of diapers one month, and then we won't see them again for two or three months. The monthly allotment that you are approved to receive each month is an average, and we can help you keep track these allotments for you if you request diapers only occasionally.

What happens if we forget our nylon distribution bags?

Oh no! If you forget your diapers, we'll pack only dirty diapers for you next time. Just kidding! Those bags cost money that we'd rather spend on diapers instead. Please make a good faith effort to bring them back so we don't have to order more nylon bags.

Why can't you deliver to us?

We have over 25 partners, and it is more efficient to have you all meet us at our space than for us to drive out to each of you. We know it can be difficult to step away from your organization's good work to come out to us, and we appreciate it.

Can we refer families to you for diapers?

Please, no. We never distribute diapers directly to families. You might meet a family that needs diapers but cannot receive services from your organization. If that is the case, please direct them to our partner list on our website (under "Need Diapers?" tab) to find out who they can approach for help. Feel free to reach out to us for guidance.

How can other organizations become partners?

Interested organizations can contact us for more information. We have a wait list for enrolling new partners. As our capacity grows, we can add partners from this wait list.

More information

Please feel free to contact us at any time:

General email: diapers@athensareadiapers.com

Operations Manager Beth Staton: beth.staton@athensareadiapers.com

Executive Director Erin Campbell: erin@athensareadiapers.com

Website: www.athensareadiaperbank.com

Social media: Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter

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