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www.nestlings.org

News from the Nest...

Newsletter - Volume 3 - July 2014

Nestlings 3rd Birthday...

Nestlings celebrated its 3rd Birthday on February 9th. Three years ago a conversation started the idea and ball rolling toward founding Nestlings. It is truly amazing to think of all that has happened in just a few years.



Nestlings distributed it's 100,000th diaper in the fall of 2013. Nestlings has distributed over 50,000 diapers each year for the past two years. With the goal for 2014 being to distribute 75,000 diapers or more into the low income community toward fighting diaper need. Thousands of families with babies and children have been helped thanks to the diapers provided by Nestlings and **You** the community.

New Nest, Phone and Email...



Just like the babies Nestlings serves it keeps growing. Nestlings quickly outgrew its nest space and needed to find a bigger one. The new location is: **650 Riley St., Suite L, Holland, MI 49424**. That is in the Riley Square on Riley St. between Butternut and 144th Ave. in the same plaza as one of our donation drop off locations, the Untangled Salon. Nestlings also has a new phone number of **616-298-1009** and new email address of diapers@nestlings.org. Please update your settings and contact information.

Big Happenings...

Exciting and wonderful opportunities came Nestlings way in February this year. Nestlings received a donation of 50,000 diapers from a partnership between Meijer, Huggies and The National Diaper Bank. A great front page write up in the Holland Sentinel, by Peg McNichol followed.



Next, Nestlings was recognized for its work by the Women Who Care Group and gifted with their first quarter grant gift thanks to Marcia Davis who presented Nestlings organization to the group. Women Who Care



is a great group of women who meet 4 times a year and commit to donating \$100. each per quarter to a non-profit organization in our community that the group chooses. This group of women proves that together you can make a small commitment while still making big impact on the organizations that work helping others in our community.



Nestlings was then named one of 8 finalist in the Wood TV8 Connecting with Community Award. What an honor it was to be named along side of all the other wonderful organizations doing great works in West Michigan. Nestlings received a 2 minute video that played multiple times on Wood TV8 for one week. The news story by Eva Aguirre Cooper can be seen on our website at nestlings.org. Nestlings did not win the

award but truly felt like it did just being part of the process with the other non-profits selected.

The Holland Junior Welfare League also recognized Nestlings with a 3rd consecutive year grant gift which allowed for the purchase of over 2,000 diapers in the most needed and distributed sizes of 4, 5 and 6. The diapers were re-packaged by great volunteers, then sent back out the door to over 18 partner agencies and will help hundreds of families in need.



Nestlings Diaper Days and Community Baby Shower...



In June, Nestlings hosted a 4 day free community event to bring awareness to the issue of Diaper Need.

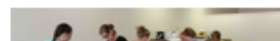
Local business hosted Diaper Drives while others competed in a Diaper Display Competition, a Diaper Derby with crawling babies was held, a day of Free Professional Baby Photos and it

all ended in a Community Baby Shower. The Ottawa County Health Department Maternal Infant Health Program won some wonderful family themed gift package prizes to be given to actual families enrolled into their program. Lots of free food, cake, prizes, photos, fun and smiles were had by all.

Thank you Diaper Day Sponsors Meijer and Boar's Head along everyone else involved for their contributions and or participation with the party and weeks events. A big thank you also goes out to Mandy Walker of Nestlings who organized such a great event for our community

Regular Diaper Wraps and Agency Diaper Pickup Days...

Nestlings host regularly scheduled Diaper Wrapping and



Agency Pick Up Days. They are held on the 2nd Friday of every month between 1pm-3pm and on the 3rd Monday of every month between 9:30am -11:30am.



Partner agencies can pick up diaper orders during these times if the order has been sent in 3 days prior. If you would like to volunteer to help re-package diapers feel free to also stop in during the same times and you will be put to work.

Nestlings host groups who would like to re-wrap diapers as a team building activity, community give back or just for fun. Mead Johnson, Kohls, Walgreens, Girls on the Run, The Red Hat Ladies, Women's Service Day and Meijer are some of the great groups that have helped re-package diapers that are distributed for the babies.

Save the Dates - Up Coming Events...

September 12 & 13 Coin & Diaper Drive for National Diaper Week



Nestlings will be holding a coin drive recognizing National Diaper Need Awareness Week – September 8th – 14th. Diaper Need Awareness Week is a National campaign asking individuals to act to help make a difference in the lives of millions of low income families with babies and children in the U.S.

Please start collecting coins and or diapers now and turn them in at Nestlings office on **Friday, September 12 between 1-3 or Saturday, September 13 between 11:30-3pm**. Stop in drop your donation, have a snack, drink, just say hi and visit.

Help our mascot, Cheep, fill the big blue jug with your "Change" to help make a "Change". If you would like to host a diaper drive or a big blue jug to collect coins for a period of time at your business, club, group, church, etc. please contact Nestlings.

November 8th - Euchre Tournament

Do you like to play Euchre? Want to see if you can "Trump" the rest? Grab some of your card playing friends and sign up for the Nestlings and the Macatawa Resource Centers joint Euchre Tournament Fundraiser. More information will be coming soon as we get closer to the **November 8** date.



There are opportunities for everyone, if you are interested in playing, volunteering or sponsoring please contact Nestlings at diapers@nestlings.org or Leroy at the Macatawa Resource Center at lhernandez@macatawaresourcecenter.org for more information.

Nestlings Needs "Green" for Green Babies...



Nestling cloth diaper program has grown faster than the babies it helps and is having trouble keeping up with the demand for



cloth diapers and their supplies. Nestlings does not want to have to put babies on waiting list because demand is higher than supply. Nestlings mission is to help keep babies dry and happy no matter what their preference – cloth or disposable.

If you have cloth diapers and supplies to donate please drop them off at Nestlings Cloth Diaper Partner - EcoBuns Cloth Diaper Store at 12330 James St., Holland, 49424.

If you have a passion for cloth diapers or being "Green" please donate some "Green" to Nestlings and designate your donation as "Green for Green" and it will help support Nestlings Cloth Diaper Program. Nestlings initial average cost of a cloth starter kit is \$85 each.

Please Donate ...

Babies are born every day which means diaper supply does not last long, with Nestlings most needed distributed sizes being 4, 5 and 6. Together we can make a difference to thousands in our own community.



***Please donate to Nestlings with diapers, wipes, cloth diapers or monetary donations by credit card at nestlings.org using Paypal or Square by calling 616-298-1009. Diapers can be directly shipped or Checks can be mailed to Nestlings locked box at:
11926 Burning Bush Ct, Holland, MI 49424.***

Gift cards to retailers that sell diapers are also accepted. See nestlings.org for a list of diaper donation drop off locations - open packages accepted.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You...



Nestlings and Cheep cannot say **Thank You** enough to all of the supporters that are allowing Nestlings to fulfill its mission to help diaper the innocent low income children and babies whom do not choose their circumstances to be born into. Without **You** we could not help them. Together we are truly changing more than diapers we are changing lives and futures.

Please feel free to contact Nestlings at 616-298-1009 or email: diapers@nestlings.org for any questions, comments,

suggestions or input. Nestlings is an all volunteer operation so office hours are held by appointment.



THANK YOU!

You have helped Nestlings serve a lot of babies, children and families in the past three years. Thanks to all of you who helped us reach this milestone. Diaper banks exist throughout the

country and successfully serve their local communities, but Nestlings is the first

country and successfully serve their local communities, but Nestlings is the first diaper bank in West Michigan. Nestlings is a nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing awareness of the ongoing need for diapers and designed to be a centralized source for collecting, storing, and distributing diapers.



The cloth diaper program is sponsored by EcoBuns, a natural parenting boutique located in Holland, Michigan. We are so grateful for our partnership with EcoBuns, providing much needed expertise and follow-up for the families that are learning how to use and wash cloth diapers appropriately.

EcoBuns: <http://www.ecobuns.com/>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/ecobuns>

Great Cloth Diaper Change: <http://greatclothdiaperchange.com/>



Diapers Help Fight Child Abuse A child left in a soiled or wet diaper tends to cry more; the parent's frustration increases; the child is more at risk for abuse and neglect. The free diapers distributed by Nestlings prevent the suffering of children left in soiled or wet diapers for long periods of time. A child's basic needs must be met for a family to thrive. Fulfilling the basic physical and emotional needs of parents are factors that will keep Ottawa County children safe and their families healthy.