

For Immediate Release

Press Contact:

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Diaper Drive: Make a Mother's Day!

Fort Myers, FL, May 10, 2016 – Healthy Start is requesting donations to help a mothers in need with a gift of diapers for their baby. Donations will benefit babies in Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee Counties.

- 1 in 2 families (1,500+) in the Healthy Start program struggle to buy diapers.
- Food stamps cannot buy diapers.
- Diapers cost about \$75-\$100 per month per baby.
- Babies who remain too long in a soiled diaper are exposed to potential health risks and increased possibility for child abuse.

In addition to individual donations, we are also asking businesses, churches, and civic groups to consider running a diaper drive. BB&T - Oswald Trippe and Company is leading the way through their annual Light House Project with a diaper drive that raised more the 960 packages of diapers and 120 packages of wipes. (See attached picture file. Names from left to right: Velda Babb, Shernette Atkinson, Lizzi Paz, Jennifer Hammerstone, Barbara Allen, Allison Norris, Paul Copeland, and Kate Gilbert.)

Donations can be made online at www.HealthyStartBaby.org

or mail a check to:

Healthy Start Coalition of Southwest FL
1921 Jefferson Avenue
Fort Myers, FL 33901

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About Healthy Start:

The infant mortality rate in Southwest Florida (Collier, Hendry, and Lee Counties) has decreased 47% since the program began in 1992. Last year, Healthy Start provided education and support to more than 14,000 pregnant women, babies and young children who were at higher risk for poor health outcomes. More than 95 cents of every dollar received went to services in our local community.

Investing in programs that promote a healthy start in life for young children is important because a healthy start lasts a lifetime! Babies who are born healthy are more likely to be ready for school, succeed in school, less likely to end up in the juvenile justice system, and more likely to become healthy and productive adults.

For more info, please go to www.HealthyStartBaby.org