



## St. Louis Area Diaper Bank

**St. Louis Area Diaper Bank** provides diapers at no cost to families experiencing diaper need: the inability to provide a sufficient supply of diapers to keep a baby clean, dry, and healthy. According to [The NDBN Diaper Check 2023](#), 1 in 2 families struggles to afford diapers.

Families receiving diapers from **St. Louis Area Diaper Bank** were interviewed as part of a larger, national study of the economic impact of diaper banks. The study found that when families receive diapers, **more families are able to work or attend school, health care spending is reduced, and children are healthier.**

### About the families we serve

FAMILIES SPEND, ON AVERAGE,  
**\$960-\$1,200**  
A YEAR ON DIAPERS PER CHILD

**1 in 3**  
FAMILIES USE  
CHILDCARE

**72%**  
OF FAMILIES REPORT INCOME < \$25,000

ADULTS ARE WORKING, ON AVERAGE,  
**36 HOURS**  
A WEEK

**91%**  
OF CHILDREN ARE COVERED BY MEDICAID

**69%**

OF FAMILIES RECEIVING DIAPERS WORK

### Working families need diapers

The majority of families receiving diapers from **St. Louis Area Diaper Bank** are working and still unable to afford an adequate supply of diapers. Additionally, **15%** of adults are working **2** or more jobs.

### St. Louis Area Diaper Bank is a trusted community resource

As a reliable source for diapers, **St. Louis Area Diaper Bank** helps families access this basic need. Among families that connect with a diaper program, a majority (**67%**) expect that they will only need additional support for one year or less in the future.

**75%**

OF FAMILIES RECEIVED DIAPERS ONE YEAR OR LESS

**88%**

OF CHILDCARE PROVIDERS REQUIRED DIAPERS

### Diapers: True cost of childcare

In **Missouri**, the average expense for placing an infant in family (**\$6,297**) or center-based (**\$11,059**) care typically does not include the cost of diapers. Families are required to provide a full supply of diapers.

### St. Louis Area Diaper Bank helps families achieve self-sufficiency

Diapers are necessary for childcare, which enables adults to work or achieve educational goals. As educational attainment rises, wages increase and unemployment rates fall.

**97%**

OF FAMILIES USING CHILDCARE DEPEND ON IT FOR WORK OR SCHOOL

WITHOUT DIAPERS, FAMILIES COULD LOSE

**12**

HOURS OF WORK EACH MONTH

### Diapers prevent wage loss

Families report that if they didn't receive diapers from **St. Louis Area Diaper Bank** they could lose needed childcare and therefore have to work less hours. For an adult making \$15/hour in Missouri, lost earnings amount to **\$2,100** a year.

### St. Louis Area Diaper Bank positively impacts health care

Parents report that their children have fewer cases of diaper-related illnesses and health care visits after receiving diapers. The reduction in both represents significant savings to the health care system.

**DECREASE**

IN HEALTH CARE SYSTEM COSTS TO TREAT DIAPER RELATED ILLNESSES

Source: The findings are based on 98 St. Louis Area Diaper Bank recipients interviewed, as part of National Diaper Bank Network-funded research conducted in partnership with 65 U.S. diaper banks. For more information visit [nationaldiaperbanknetwork.org/EIS](https://nationaldiaperbanknetwork.org/EIS).

For more information, contact

**St. Louis Area Diaper Bank**

[stldiaperbank.org](https://stldiaperbank.org)

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