



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **25,000 diaper changes is 2016 drive's goal**

A total of 25,000 diapers are needed this year by the LSS Crisis Nursery, which temporarily provides free diapers for families who are experiencing an immediate crisis.

About 700 nursery visits were logged last year by parents or caregivers who have suddenly lost a job or transportation, had to flee an abusive situation with no supplies, or are living with friends or in a motel or car.

"These are people in desperate need, nowhere else to turn and really cannot afford the \$175 a month or so for diapers," said Cathy Bergh, director of LSS (Lutheran Social Service, formerly Bethany) Crisis Nursery. "We want to keep kids safe by providing a crisis phone line, a few days of emergency child care by licensed caregivers, and diapers, formula, and clothing for whatever crisis they are facing."

Providing a few free diapers is a proven method for relieving stress, and parental stress directly affects children's health and development, Bergh said.

Last year, the December Diaper Drive collected gift cards and donated diapers that resulted in about 45,000 diapers. This year, large sizes 4, 5 and 6 and pull-on styles are most needed.

Last year, Maurice's won "the Golden Diaper Award" for donating \$1,000 on behalf of its employees. That \$1,000 purchased 8,100 diapers and helped achieve 20% of the goal. Pro Print of Duluth, a printer who has fewer than 50 employees, formed a four-team challenge for the second year and donated 5,796 diapers.

Duluth Children's Museum and Sam's Club are new drop-off sites. The 2016 list is:

**Art in the Alley**, Miller Hill Mall

**Bent Paddle Brewing Co. Taproom**, 1912 W. Michigan St.

*Free pint with donation of diapers or \$10+*

**Duluth Children's Museum**, 114 S. 29<sup>th</sup> Ave. W.

**Duluth Grill**, 118 S. 27<sup>th</sup> Ave. W.

**Head of the Lakes United Way**, 424 W. Superior St., Room 402

**Lake Superior Magazine Outlet Store**, 310 E. Superior St.  
**LSS Crisis Nursery**, 1 E. First St., Suite 301  
**Marshall Hardware**, 4415 E. Superior St.  
**North Shore Bank of Commerce**  
Downtown - Hermantown - Lakeside - Woodland  
**Pro Print of Duluth**, 3920 Airpark Blvd.  
**St. Louis Co Auditor's Service Center**, Miller Hill Mall  
**Sam's Club**, Maple Grove Road, Hermantown  
**Super One Foods** - Kenwood, Lakeside, Miller Hill, West Duluth  
**UMD – Welcome Center** in Kirby Center and **Children's Place**, Kirby Plaza #260  
**UMD Center for Economic Development**, Tech Village, 11 E. Superior St. #212  
**Zahn Investment Group**, 2311 Woodland Ave., Suite 1

Please check with businesses for their open hours.

Boxes for some of the drop-off locations are being donated by Wherley Moving Systems and decorated by volunteers at First Lutheran Church.

Businesses, congregations, clubs, holiday party-givers and other organizations “who want to set out their own donation box are highly encouraged to do so,” Bergh said. When shoppers are picking up toys for their children or grandchildren, they are asked to think of children who don't even have diapers and buy a package or two.

Checks or gift cards can be sent to the administrative office at LSS Crisis Nursery, 424 W. Superior St., #204, Duluth, MN 55802, and please note “December Diaper Drive.”

For more information, email [diaperdrive@aol.com](mailto:diaperdrive@aol.com) or call 218-728-1445.