

Quarterly Newsletter

A Note from the Board of Directors

Welcome to the summer edition of our first-ever newsletter at Keeping Families Covered! We hope you will find this **quarterly newsletter** to be educational and informative. Our goal is to keep you apprised of the work we're doing to help **alleviate the stress of diaper need and period poverty** through our community partners and via direct service across northern Illinois and southeastern Wisconsin. We also want to give you a **behind-the-scenes look** at how we do what we do and introduce you to the wonderful people who make it all possible.

As you may already know, our remarkable founder and CEO – Ann Marie Mathis – started Keeping Families Covered in 2010, and we've **grown significantly** since that time. What began as a one-person operation has become a **strong 501(c)3 non-profit organization** with two offices, full and part-time staff, engaged volunteers across two counties, and a Board of Directors!

As our organization expands, diaper need and period poverty continue to grow as well. The statistics that motivate our mission have changed. Now, **1 in 2 families experience diaper need** and **1 in 3 families struggle to afford period supplies**. These numbers are staggering and directly impact neighbors in our local communities. Families rely on us to provide the diapers their children need in order to attend daycare so parents can go to work. Individuals rely on us to provide period and incontinence supplies so that they don't miss work or school. We're helping people get the basics they need for health and quality of life. The growing need means there is always more work to be done and more people to help!

In this issue, you will find an overview of our **year-to-date work**, important dates and information about **upcoming events**, and **opportunities for donors and volunteers** to further help us on our mission to get families the basics they need to be healthy and thrive.

We are excited to share this new longer-form resource with you and look forward to engaging you in what we hope will become an **inspiring and meaningful dialogue** about our **ongoing efforts**.

We are **deeply appreciative** of the donations and funding that underwrite our work and help us fulfill our mission. Every dollar makes a difference and we are **thankful for your continued support!**

Warm regards,
Kathleen Cosyns
Interim Board President

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**SAVE THE
DATE!**

**September
21**
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Save the Date!

Join us for our biggest annual event and help us achieve our goal!



CASINO NIGHT

Go All-In for a Fun-Filled Casino Night to Support Keeping Families Covered

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2024

Marriott Lincolnshire | Doors Open at 6pm

Blackjack Craps Poker Roulette

KEEPINGFAMILIESCOVERED.ORG



We need to raise \$100,000 so we can purchase two new vehicles to expand our distribution service!



keepingfamiliescovered.org/events

More than Diapers

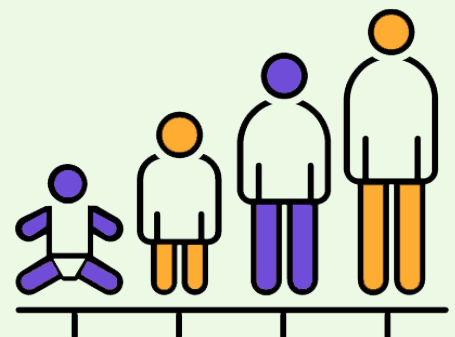
Keeping Families Covered provides more than diapers for infants and toddlers! We provide resources for people at every age and stage of life. In addition to diapers for little ones, we also provide period supplies and incontinence supplies for teens, adults, and individuals with disabilities. Our mission is to serve our most vulnerable community members by providing them with the basic necessities they need to thrive.

Did you know...?

1/3 of the people we help in McHenry County are seniors!

Incontinence & period supplies cannot be purchased with SNAP/EBT

10% of seniors in Illinois live below the Federal Poverty Line

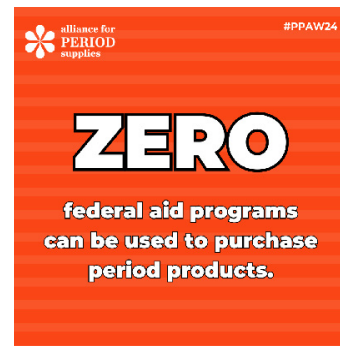


Period Poverty Awareness Week Recap

Keeping Families Covered is a proud member of the Alliance for Period Supplies. Every year the Alliance hosts national **Period Poverty Awareness Week**, which is an opportunity for the 140+ member organizations to focus on educating their local communities about the severity of period poverty. For the first time ever, the Alliance also sponsored virtual lobby days in support of the **Menstrual Equity for All Act (#Me4All)** which was a great opportunity for member organizations to connect with their federal elected officials to raise awareness for period poverty and this important legislation. Learn more about the [Menstrual Equality for All Act here](#). We can all do our part to help alleviate the struggle of period poverty, but changes to state and federal laws can implement broad, meaningful change at scale. We're on a mission to provide immediate relief and to continue using our collective power to create change!

The 2024 Period Poverty Awareness Week was May 20-28. In honor of that, we hosted **several events and supplies drives** throughout the month of May. Check out some of the **infographics** we shared to educate our community on this important issue (featured to the right). **Highlights** from this year's events are below.

We're already gearing up to make 2025 better than ever! Email us at info@keepingfamiliescovered.org to learn more about how you can help!



2024 Highlights



May 10, 2024

We hosted a Girls' Night Out at Anam Cara Cafe in Libertyville, IL.

We provided 50,000 period supplies to those in need during the month of April!



May 28, 2024

We distributed FREE period supplies and also collected donations at Hawthorn Mall in Vernon Hills, IL.

We partnered with local businesses and schools, like Woodlands Academy of the Sacred Heart, to host period supplies drives!

Meet the Team!

Bio

Name: Jackie L.

Role: Program
Coordinator



Responsibilities: Coordinating diaper orders and pickups for our partner organizations and managing the prep and setup for our 6 mobile diaper pantries.

Years of Service?

I started as a donor first! I became a volunteer in 2017, then was hired in 2019.

What did you do before you joined the Keeping Families Covered team?

I got my bachelor's degree at Hope College in Holland, MI. (I studied abroad in Mexico too!) Then I had a full-time job in the corporate world before eventually coming to KFC.

Home Life

I'm married with two children (ages 8 and 12) and have been living in Lake County since 2009.

How did you first learn about Keeping Families Covered?

I found the organization because of a Facebook post looking for used children's books in 2015.

Favorite Food?

I would say that my favorite food is broccoli. (I know, not exactly normal!)

Fun Fact?

My husband was once a contestant on "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?"

Impact Report Update

2023 was an amazing year for our organization! 23 core team members and 733 volunteers (2,963 volunteer hours!) were able to provide a record number of diapers (2,004,875) and period supplies (257,568) to the families and individuals we serve through direct service (mobile diaper pantries) and our 60 community partners!

In 2024, we have already provided over 1 million diapers to the communities we serve!

Learn about all the ways you can support our mission!



Volunteer



Donate



Host a Drive

Visit us at

keepingfamiliescovered.org

Platinum
Transparency
2024

Candid.



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