

From: Nina Ruckes

326 Old Tavern Rd

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Re: Full funding for the Connecticut Diaper Bank

Date: 3/3/2021

I submit written testimony in support of full or expanded funding for the Diaper Bank because of the vital service it provides. Babies need clean diapers to stay healthy and this should be considered a basic right. This is the first time I am participating in a Public Hearing because I think this issue is so important.

I was a foster mom for 8 years and my family took care of over 25 infants and toddlers in that time. I had the occasion to meet birth mothers who said that when their babies were returned to their care, they would contact the Diaper Bank. They all had very limited resources and depended on this service. I had 2 babies who were cared for at the LULAC (League of Urban Latin American Citizens) Head Start in New Haven. There all the children were provided with diapers from the Diaper Bank. This was a great service to the mothers of these children. Babies were kept clean and healthy.

The Diaper Bank also provides feminine hygiene and incontinence products which are also important for basic human dignity.

Now is not the time to cut funding to this very important organization. Please restore full funding and consider expanding if possible.

Thank you.