

## **DIAPERING RESOURCE COMMITTEE DRAFT MINUTES**

**November 4, 2021**

**9:00 AM**

The Diapering Resource Committee held a public meeting on November 4, 2021, beginning at 10:00 A.M. at the following locations:

### **Teleconference:**

Call in: 1-888-336-1831

Access Code: 62214424

### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Kim Amato, Chair, Baby's Bounty

Colette Moore, RN, retired, University Medical Center (UMC) Director

Jessica Roew – Nevada Early Intervention Services

Blanca Ayala – Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH), Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

Philip Vander Klay – National Diaper Bank Network

Maria Teresa Johnson – RN, Southern Nevada Health District

### **BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Ann McIntyre – Partnerships for America

### **DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (DPBH) STAFF PRESENT**

Karissa Loper, MPH, Health Bureau Chief, DPBH, CFCW

Vickie Ives, MA, Deputy Bureau Chief, MCAH, CFCW

Evelyn Dryer, Program Manager, Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV), Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Section (MCAH), Child Family and Community Wellness (CFCW)

McKenna Bacon, Administrative Assistant IV, CFCW

Desiree Wenzel, Administrative Assistant III, MCAH, CFCW

Rhonda Buckley, Administrative Assistant II, MCAH, CFCW

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Kelly Maxwell – Executive Director, Baby's Bounty

Lisa Boneck – The Children's Cabinet Washoe County

#### **1. Call to Order at 9:02 A.M. Roll Call and Introductions**

Roll call was taken, and it was determined a quorum of the Diapering Resource Committee was present.

#### **2. Public Comment**

No Public Comment was made.

### **3. Approval of draft minutes and discussion of agenda**

**Colette Moore made a motion to approve the May 26, 2021, meeting minutes with described changes:** Chair Kim Amato wanted to clarify that the \$6.8 million that was allocated to Nevada was to be managed by the Department of Welfare and Supportive Services, but it may have changed since then. Baby's Bounty had intended to apply for \$150,000 to be used two-thirds in the South, and one-third in the North to provide diapers for distribution. Ms. Dryer displayed the changes on the screen for all members to view. Chair Amato explained her clarification of the minutes.; Ms. Dryer asked if there was a motion to accept the minutes as they are worded/ revised. **Ms. Moore made a motion to accept, Jessica Roew seconded the motion which passed unanimously without public comment**

### **4. Discussion and possible recommendations on Diapering Resource Committee (DRC) funding and sponsorship opportunities – Kim Amato; Chair**

Chair Amato stated it was much the same as last time and they are still waiting for some clarification on how to proceed. She has no updates and asked if there were any questions or input.

### **5. Discussion and possible action relevant to the process of applying for Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funding for Diapering – Kelly Maxwell, Director, Baby's Bounty**

Ms. Maxwell stated they have applied everywhere they could for federal money. They applied for block grant funds from the City of Las Vegas July 26, 2021. They asked for \$515,000 for a large-scale diaper distribution over a period of 18 months, with an equal split distributing them via their three locations. The remaining diapers will be distributed with partner agencies. This is based on the San Diego Diaper Bank model. It involves additional warehouse and additional staffing. The general application dates for block grant funds from the City of Las Vegas have been pushed back.

On August 1<sup>st</sup>, Baby's Bounty applied for \$300,000 through Clark County funds for their mobile diaper bank program. The application dates on this also have been pushed back as they've received so many applications.

Ms. Maxwell noted for both applications, Baby's Bounty doesn't exactly fit within the parameters that the City and the County established for fund recipients.

In early September, Baby's Bounty submitted an idea to North Las Vegas to continue the North Las Vegas Diaper Bank. The idea was submitted to Councilwoman Pamela Goynes Brown. Ms. Maxwell is in contact with her, Alfredo Melesio, the assistant city manager, and Jared Luke in Government Affairs, and will continue to follow up on the North Las Vegas option.

She has also reached out to the City of Henderson several times. The City of Henderson

doesn't have an application process ready yet. Baby's Bounty was asked by the City of Henderson to submit an idea for funds, as well. Baby's Bounty submitted a \$200,000 idea for continuing the diaper bank.

Ms. Maxwell stated they have no word on additional TANF funds or that one-third in the North, two-thirds in the South.

Chair Amato stated Ms. Maxwell has been working hard and talking to all their elected officials when they come to the diaper banks. Ms. Amato asked Phillip Vander Klay to comment as he recommended that everyone approach their elected officials to get an earmark.

Phillip Vander Klay stated he knows there is a need to be cognizant of the rules and regulations around advocacy in this comment. He stated Congress has brought back earmarks. Community projects are what they're often called and, generally, those are put forward by local Representatives or in some cases a Senator, made particularly for a statewide issue. But those requests can be made through those legislative offices, district office, then coordinated with the D.C. office.

Mr. Vander Klay stated by looking at program expansion or something in the North, those are also possible avenues for organizations to look at funding. He shared that there were other diaper banks across the country that were invited by their local members of Congress to apply for an earmark. To his knowledge, no diaper banks received one, but this was a smaller process and it's new but next year will be expanded.

He also shared that National Diaper Bank Network (NDN) continues to work on federal funding through the appropriations process. Currently, the government is funded through December 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Congress is working to pass appropriations bills by that time. As he shared previously, the House has passed \$200 million in funding for diaper distribution programs and their appropriations bill. The Senate drafted appropriations bills did not include diaper funding.

Mr. Vander Klay stated if there is a short-term continuing resolution or appropriations bill passed, he thinks there would be a federal diaper distribution program funding that would go out to states to be implemented at the state level, specifically for diaper distribution programs.

Ms. Maxwell asked if the states would be running those programs, or does he think there would be non-government organizations distributing the diapers like existing diaper banks?

Mr. Vander Klay noted his anticipation is that they would likely be existing diaper banks. He also stated he could see in some states where there is not necessarily the current diaper bank capacity to accept large grants and distribute statewide, that there maybe would be a combination of state programs, or just grants to local government agencies to run something. He stated, for example, Colorado has a statewide distribution with state funding. They gave grants out to diaper banks and some county public health offices.

He noted diaper banks receive the majority of the funds, but not all of the funds. He could see this replicated to other states because of legislation and how the request is structured. The funding goes to the states and is flexible as to how the states implement. We can work at the state level to advise on the current diaper bank network in the state, the logistics, and how to best implement that funding at the state level.

He anticipated in the best-case scenario, if there is an appropriations bill passed before December 3<sup>rd</sup>, it would include funding up to \$100 million in diaper bank funding. For that federal funding, he anticipates it will be almost a year after passage before the funds would go out to the community for of diapers. The American Rescue Plan and the funding for home visiting agencies and the TANF funding that passed in March is still not out to the public.

Chair Amato asked if the \$6.8 million that was allocated to Nevada is still tied up in the appropriations bill or it did get approved and distributed and if it's going to TANF and SNAP, because that was from last spring. She asked Ms. Dryer and Ms. Ives if they had information about that or if Mr. Vander Klay did.

Mr. Vander Klay stated it was his understanding that it is at the state level now. There needs to be continued coordination with the federal agency. Mr. Vander Klay noted to speak with TANF.

Ms. Dryer stated she could reach out to her contacts at TANF and ask some questions, and perhaps invite them to join the next meeting.

Chair Amato stated that would be great as the last conversation she had with TANF she was told TANF would have to stop speaking with her because she wears two hats, being the Chair of this committee and also being involved in Baby's Bounty. They could not give her any information because the application form was in progress.

Ms. Maxwell stated they are already set up to distribute 150,000-200,000 diapers a month just with Baby's Bounty diaper banks, not including the model where partner agencies are added to distribution.

With a small increase they could add one additional employee, then Baby's Bounty could handle that influx.

Chair Amato returned to the agenda and asked if there was any further public comment. There were no other comments.

## **6. Informational: Discussion regarding Diaper Bank coordination – Evelyn Dryer**

Ms. Dryer stated she wanted to talk about the American Rescue Plan and the funding that home visiting received for diapering and diapering supplies. The understanding is the two

Southern Nevada agencies, Southern Nevada Health District and Sunrise Children's Foundation, will coordinate with Baby's Bounty to provide diapers to their clientele for a fee. They would give the money sub-awarded them for diapering resource to the diaper bank to support home visiting enrolled families needing these services.

She noted the only problem with that being if those two agencies were to give the diaper bank funding for diapers for their clientele, would that mean those families had to be included in the 500 family limit? Or be in addition to that since there would be dedicated funding?

Chair Amato deferred the question to Ms. Maxwell.

Ms. Maxwell stated they don't have a limit, it's just roughly who they are serving each week. If they register and show up and need diapers and we have the diapers available, we give them out. There's no actual limit, they would just logistically have to figure out who they identify which clients were referred that route, since their diaper banks are open to the public without referral.

Baby's Bounty has partnered with Three Square who will be purchasing diapers on their behalf as well. They're not worried about the diapers for the next two months. They can scale up even now. They also motedeven without a large financial contribution in the next few months, they will be fine with product.

Ms. Maxwell noted they can certainly serve home visiting clients, they just have to figure out the logistics of how to report, distribute and schedule. Or maybe schedule a pick-up at the home visiting agency rather than coming to the regular diaper bank that way they can keep those clients separate. They could do that.

Ms. Dryer suggested she could facilitate a meeting between Ms. Maxwell and some of the people at Southern Nevada Health District and Sunrise Children's Foundation.

Ms. Dryer stated it is written into their American Rescue Plan grant funds that they will coordinate with diaper banks as well as if it is practicable to do so. The hope is to get Baby's Bounty together with the agencies located in Clark County and let them work out details of how this will be rolled out.

Ms. Maxwell stated this was great and they're happy to do it. And with their relationship with the National Diaper Bank, they've also made some great relationships with some diaper manufacturers directly, and Three Square, so they can generally purchase at much lower cost.

Chair Amato asked if Ms. Dryer needed to be a part of this as they see these people all the time.

Ms. Dryer stated she does not have to be a part of it. She thought it would be easier for her to send an email to everyone sharing contact information so the meeting could be arranged

between parties.

Chair Amato asked Teresa Johnson and Colette Moore if they had a preference for what they want to happen.

Ms. Johnson noted she thinks, for Nurse Family Partnership, it would be easier for Ms. Dryer to set up a meeting between Sunrise Children's Foundation, Nurse Family Partnership and Ms. Maxwell, and it will be good to brainstorm what they need to do. She also agrees with that distribution plan because they don't have any storage space at their location.

Chair Amato commented they will wait for that to happen. She returned to the agenda and asked if there were any public comments. There were none.

#### **7. Discussion and possible recommendations on new member application process and recommendations for appointment, pursuant to NRS 422A.660**

Ms. Dryer stated she has collected three resumes, with two of those persons being on today's call, who are interested in joining the Committee. The process is to send the resumes and letters of interest to the Director's Office and then the Director will make the appointment. She asked does the Committee concur these three are the names that should be put forward for recommendation for membership? They are Lisa Boneck from the Children's Cabinet, Kelly Maxwell from Baby's Bounty, and Kendall Lyons from Children's Advocacy Alliance.

Ms. Johnson suggested since they were going to be involving Sunrise Children's Foundation, maybe a representative from their organization would be good, too.

Ms. Dryer added they would need to submit a letter of interest and a resume as soon as possible because the package is ready to go to the Director's Office.

Chair Amato asked Ms. Johnson if she would reach out to the person she mentioned. And if they have missed the deadline there's always next time. Ms. Johnson responded she would. And she would also talk with Ms. Dryer and see who she recommends.

Chair Amato asked if there was any public comment on this item. There was none.

#### **8. Make recommendations for future agenda items**

Chair Amato noted there was a lot of waiting. She noted the Committee is in contact with elected officials to see if they have any advice and any updates on where the funding is and how it could be accessed.

Chair Amato asked if there was any public comment to be made.

Ms. Maxwell wanted to ask a question regarding when they write their federal grants. She stated she has a lot of data about the effectiveness of the diaper bank. They have found

there was a study done in Connecticut in partnership with the National Diaper Bank network in Connecticut, which has roughly the same population as Nevada.

The study highlighted the economic advantages to funding diaper banks; and that it's cheaper to fund the diaper banks than to pay for the state costs. It was estimated that not having diaper banks was costing the state \$3.4 million in medical costs and services. Ms. Maxwell noted she would love to see a study like this done in Nevada that could highlight the economic impact of diaper banks.

Mr. Vander Klay stated the National Diaper Bank Network is currently working on their own national study based on the Connecticut study.

Ms. Maxwell stated she reached out to the Greenspan School of Public Policy to see if she could get them to do a study and they're considering it for a capstone project, it's just a long time out.

Chair Amato spoke of future agenda items and to possibly hear a recap of what happened with that study. She asked for input from Committee members for other agenda items.

Ms. Amato noted the next meeting is on the calendar for December 15<sup>th</sup>, and there are dates selected in March, June, September, and December for 2022. Ms. Amato stated, hopefully they can stay on top of those dates, meet regularly and brainstorm a little bit more. She asked if there was any public comment, there was none.

Items mentioned for the next agenda include: study relevant to Nevada, training in writing grants, progress with elected officials on insight on funding, and a discussion with TANF regarding their funding.

**Mr. Vander Klay moved to approve future agenda items as noted. Ms. Roew seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Chair Amato mentioned she received an email from Blair Keller, Executive Grants Analyst for the Office of Grants Procurement regarding the Advisory Council on Federal Assistance. They are seeking individuals and non-profit organizations, local and Tribal governments, and private businesses with an interest in supporting federal grants in Nevada to serve on that advisory council. She is going to send the information to Ms. Dryer who can then distribute the information.

No Public Comment was made.

**9. Approval of the next meeting date of December 15, and future meeting dates of: March 16, 2022; June 15, 2022; September 21, 2022; and December 15, 2022.**

**Mr. Vander Klay moved to approve future dates as noted. Blanca Ayala seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

**10. Adjournment**

**Chair Amato made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Vander Klay seconded the motion.**  
Meeting adjourned at 9:56 A.M.