



# PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS:** *On behalf of our 113,000 Residents, the City of Miami Gardens is honored to celebrate Diaper Need Awareness Week. Diaper need is the struggle to sufficiently supply diapers to ensure babies and toddlers remain clean, dry, and healthy in their early years; and*
- WHEREAS:** *National surveys and research studies report that one in three families struggles with diaper need and 48 percent of families delay changing a diaper to extend their supply. Children go through six to twelve diapers each day during the two to three years they wear diapers; and*
- WHEREAS:** *Purchasing enough diapers to keep a baby or toddler clean, dry, and healthy can consume 14 percent of a low-wage family's post-tax income, making it difficult to obtain a sufficient supply. A daily or weekly supply of diapers is generally an eligibility requirement for babies and toddlers to participate in child care programs and quality early-education programs; and*
- WHEREAS:** *Without enough diapers, babies and toddlers risk infections and health problems that may require medical attention and may prevent parents from attending work or school, thereby hurting the family's economic prospects and well-being; and*
- WHEREAS:** *The Residents of the City of Miami Gardens recognize that diaper need is a public health issue, and addressing diaper need can lead to economic opportunity for families and communities, and improved health for children; and*
- WHEREAS:** *The City of Miami Gardens is proud to be home to trusted community-based organizations that recognize the importance of diapers and works to provide economic stability for our Residents by distributing diapers to families through various channels; and*
- WHEREAS:** *Diaper banks and their staff and volunteers serve on the front lines of the City of Miami Gardens' COVID-19 pandemic response by helping families in our communities weather the crisis. While experiencing an increase in demand for diapers due to the pandemic and economic shutdown, these diaper banks work tirelessly to increase diaper distributions and support children and families in need of immediate assistance; and*

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Oliver Gilbert, Mayor of the City of Miami Gardens, Florida, along with my colleagues of the City Council: Rodney Harris, Shannon Campbell, Reginald Leon, Katrina Wilson, David Williams Jr., and Robert Stephens III and on behalf of the Residents, do hereby proclaim September 21<sup>st</sup> through September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 as:

## “DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK”

*in the City of Miami Gardens. We further urge all citizens to join with us as we thank the aforementioned diaper banks, their staff, volunteers, and donors for their courageous service during the crisis.*

Signed and the Official Seal of the City of Miami Gardens, Florida, affixed hereto this 21<sup>st</sup> day of September 2020.

Oliver Gilbert, Mayor

