



## **2020 Annual Report**

Basic Necessities is a Shreveport-based nonprofit organization that collects and distributes diapers, period products & incontinence supplies to low-income people in the ArkLaTex region.

Our target clients are low-income individuals & families who live in our region of service and cannot afford diapers, period products, and/or incontinence supplies due to unemployment, illness, and/or temporary economic difficulties. Unfortunately, public assistance programs like WIC, SNAP, and Medicaid do not cover these specific items unless they are prescribed by a doctor as part of a medical treatment plan.

During Basic Necessities' first seven months of operation (June 2020 - December 2020), we served **132 families** and **172 children**.

We distributed **16,554 diapers**, **5,839 pads/tampons/menstrual cups**, and **368 incontinence products**.

We are also providing menstrual supplies to **two low-income Title I public schools**, and **incontinence supplies to one homeless outreach center**. We do not have final numbers yet on how many people have been served by these three large product donations.

**We received donated supplies from two product drives**, and **raised nearly \$17,000.00 in corporate grants & private donations** during this same time period.

### **Our goals for 2021 include:**

- Finalizing the process of becoming the only nationally-recognized dedicated diaper & period products bank in the ArkLaTex
- Reducing the economic burden for low-income people by providing essential non-food items at no cost to them
- Partnering with community-based organizations to identify & serve *TWICE AS MANY* people in need in 2021
- Engaging community volunteers in hosting additional supply drives, delivering supplies, and providing supportive administrative services



- Creating sustainable funding partnerships with people in the business community, national diaper banks/period supply organizations, charitable foundations, and individual donors

**Of note:** Our membership in the [Alliance for Period Supplies](#) has been approved, and we have begun receiving low/no-cost menstrual supplies from [Period.org](#). Our membership application with the [National Diaper Bank Network](#) has been submitted and is pending approval.