

NEWS RELEASE

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Hawaiian Electric supports Hawaii Diaper Bank

Funding provides low-income families with basic essentials

HILO, Jan. 31, 2023 – The Hawaii Diaper Bank recently received a \$10,500 donation from Hawaiian Electric to support its efforts to eliminate diaper need on Hawaii Island.

The nonprofit organization collects diapers, baby wipes and other basic essentials through community drives and events as well as corporate donations and low-cost bulk purchasing. It also accepts new hygiene products, pacifiers and other teething items as well as new or gently used blankets, books, clothing, diaper bags, and toys for children up to age 5. The items are distributed through a network of 20 community-based organizations that assist low-income families with young children.

Located in Kamuela, Hawaii Diaper Bank is the first diaper bank in the state and the only diaper bank on Hawaii Island. On average, it serves more than 550 children per month. Since its founding in 2016, the organization has distributed more than 1.6 million donations that include 517,955 diapers.

"It's our goal to help every child go through life and go through early development being able to get everything that they need," said Mike Guritz, Hawaii Diaper Bank board member. "Donations like this allow us to purchase additional diapers, hygiene products, clothes, and different games so that all these children can be putting their best foot forward to help make our island community just a little bit better and safer."

To learn more about the Hawaii Diaper Bank, visit their website <u>www.hawaiidiaperbank.org</u> or email <u>info@hawaiidiaperbank.org</u>.

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