



Serving Needy Newborns in Southwest Washington

NOTES ABOUT “OUR” BABIES FROM SOCIAL WORKERS ~

Sophie & Eric* are 17 and have their first beautiful baby girl. They are a sweet high school couple and excited to be new parents. They don't have any money to get things ready for baby. When they were told that Babies In Need (BIN) could provide a car seat, layette and portable crib, they were beyond thrilled. They both asked how much these items would cost them and I told them they are from a wonderful local group called Babies In Need. They only stayed at the NICU for 48 hours (baby was jaundiced) but every time they saw me they had big smiles and kept saying "THANK YOU".

Joy and Tom* are in their early 20's and recently moved back to the area. Their money won't stretch to cover necessities. Their baby boy was a preemie and still so tiny at discharge that only a car bed, in which he could lie flat, was safe for transport. I was able to provide one from BIN.

Maria* is on her own and her baby has feeding problems. She was advised to use preemie bottles, but couldn't afford to buy them. When Maria was told that we could provide a pack of your Playtex preemie bottles to her, she wept happy tears!

Taneesha* is a young mother involved with Nurse-Family Partnership. She followed through with recommendations to help her become a responsible, knowledgeable parent and give her baby the best possible start in life. Her money wouldn't cover the cost of a crib, but BIN was able to give her one.

Social Worker: People in crisis have the biggest potential for change. It is never too late for a person to turn her life around. Sometimes the birth of a child will do that. I always take time to explain that the layettes are put together by people from all walks of life—some alone and some in groups. Many local organizations contribute. Someone put these things together, bought, sewed, knitted, prayed and *cared* for her baby. If struggling new moms think that no-one else cares, they sometimes become depressed, ashamed, and give up. Every mother needs to know that someone else cares about her baby. I like the fact that Babies In Need is non-discriminatory, and you don't have to be a saint to get one of the layettes. Thank you for caring—it makes a big difference to our moms in crisis.

**Names changed to protect privacy*

December 2013

Current Need per Month

- 22 Layettes
- 13 Car Seats
- 4 Sibling Bags
- 3 Portable Cribs

Given Since 1999

- 3675 Newborn Layettes
- 1802 Newborn Car Seats
- 662 Sibling Gift Bags
- 68 Portable Cribs

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A Ministry of

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&
Caring people of Vancouver,
Western WA, and beyond.

Drop-off Location

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Contact Information

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Vancouver WA 98665
360-573-8299

Kitty Ash, Executive Director
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www.babiesinneed.org

“Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these...you have done it unto me.” - Matthew 25:40

NOTES FROM PARENTS ~



John* Hello. My name is John. I'm normally someone who doesn't reach out for help but I feel this is the only way to help provide for my family. We were recently blessed with two healthy baby boys. They are just 3 weeks old, each weighing a little over 6 lbs. It's definitely hit us hard financially just to be able to provide for them since neither of us are working. Our families have tried to help us but we have little to no clothes nor car seats for them. I just wanted to know if you had any car seats, play pens or clothes available to help us out. Please let me know what I can do.

Later: Just wanted to let you know that we're very thankful for the layettes, car seats and cribs. This will truly be helpful to me and my family. We want to give back once we are in a better position. ~ John

Anna* Thank you for all the wonderful items we received in the layette and for the car seat and crib. Once we are finished with the clothing may we donate it back so it can go back to more families in need? Oh, thank you so much for everything. You have no idea how much this means to us. We are truly thankful for all you have given us in our time of need. It's wonderful how much you are able to help families in need. ~ Anna

Emilia* Hello, I am 21 years old. I am a single mother of a three-year-old girl and I'm also pregnant and due in March. I've been having trouble obtaining a job. There are many issues I've been facing. I am living with a friend at the moment but she can no longer keep me and my daughter in her home because of the property owner. I have nothing for my new baby. It's been really hard since all my family lives in California. If there's any way you could be able to help me, it would really mean a lot to me. Thanks.

CONTINUING SUPPORT ~



Child Abuse Assessment Team Quilts and stuffed toys help children from our four-county area during evaluation and treatment.

Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention Program Purple baby hats remind parents of their training when babies cry non-stop for long periods.

Sibling Bags Parents in the NICU sometimes have children they are trying to entertain in order to have a few moments with their premature infant. A sibling bag buys them precious time. One single mother with older children had to stay in the hospital overnight unexpectedly with the children. The sibling bags gave them some activities and one of the children loved filling out *My Baby and Me* in preparation for her new little sibling. It helped her feel involved and important.

INTRODUCING: WALK INTO PRAYER ~

This booklet is designed to lead people of faith and non-faith backgrounds into an easy, natural, honest conversation with our Creator. It has visual aids to prayer, spaces for writing or drawing, some familiar and beloved prayers, and a section on teaching children how to pray. It was created for Babies In Need by The Rev. Elise Astleford, Kitty Ash, Fiona Neumann, Pat Stephens and Linda Brand. We put a copy into each layette gift bag.



May God bless you for your part in this ministry.

Kitty Ash, Director

Who We Serve

Low-income families of all racial, ethnic, educational, and religious backgrounds; unsupported mothers, homeless women and babies, immigrants; victims of domestic violence or substance abuse; families with medical problems or job loss, and premature or special needs babies.

Fact

500 babies are born in Clark County every month. About 30 need our help.

A Typical Layette

(Premie & Newborn sizes)

Pajamas / Gowns
Onesies / Undershirts
Fleecy pajama-sleepers
Washcloths / burp cloths
Receiving blankets
Crib blanket / quilt
Diapers / Wipes
Sweater / Hat
Book, Crib Toy

Card from *Babies In Need Walk into Prayer To the Mother of a New Baby A Man and a New Baby*
Storybook
Car seat safety sticker

Layette Assembly

One afternoon a month
Phone: 360-573-8299 or
Email KittyAsh2@msn.com
To receive monthly notices.

Speakers Available

We can provide a 15-minute program on *Babies In Need* for your church, civic, or social group. Phone: 573-8299
Email: KittyAsh2@msn.com

We cannot all do great things, but we can do small things with great love.

~ Mother Teresa

