July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022 Impact Report



Helping more families than ever before

The mission of the AECDC is to provide free social and healthrelated services to the neediest in our community, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, ability, age, or gender.



Anshe Emeth Community Development Corporation



President's LETTER

There is a joke in my family that mom retired from her full-time career so she could work full-time at her volunteer job. To be honest, there is some truth to my family's perception. Serving as President of the Anshe Emeth Community Development Corporation is truly a labor of love. Last year, the signature program of the AECDC helped more families than ever before in our 22- year history. The Central Jersey Diaper Bank continues to be a robust player in the safety net system of Middlesex County. Knowing that each diaper package delivered is bringing health and care to young families all around the county is both humbling and energizing. Our clients mean so much to us as we tackle the issue of diaper insecurity one family at a time. This past fiscal year, our board and staff worked tirelessly to formulate a three-year strategic plan that incorporates year over year growth and begins to tackle the very real challenge of doubling our budget to keep up with demand. We were extremely fortunate to receive a bequest that will allow the AECDC to begin an endowment account, strengthening our plans for future growth. We could not do any of this work without the constant support of our funders, donors, volunteers, community partners, and temple administration, staff, and members. Thank you to all who have shared their time, talent, and treasure as we continue to repair our small corner of the world. We truly could not do it without you!

Wishing you all a healthy and prosperous year.

Mary Ellen Firetone

MaryEllen Firestone President **Board of Trustees**

Executive Director's LETTER

Anytime I've been asked what I wanted to do with my life, the answer has been the same: "I want to help people." I have never been able to help more people in a more tangibly impactful way than I have in my time at the Anshe Emeth Community Development Corporation thus far. Every day, I see bundles being delivered to families and I wonder how exactly each bundle will impact that family. One of those bundles might mean that a parent can drop their baby off at daycare and continue to work at their job rather than missing a day and risking being fired. Another bundle may result in a baby avoiding a diaper rash or infection that would impact their health. Yet another bundle may help decrease a mom's risk of postpartum depression. Every bundle, every diaper, makes a difference, and that is why this work is so important. Thank you to our staff, donors, volunteers, board members, and supporters for making it possible to do what we do. It is an honor to work with you all.

With gratitude.

Pather Nover

Heather Nover **Executive Director**

iapers are a basic need for babies, but many families D cannot afford them. This can lead to health issues for babies, such as diaper rashes or infections. However, the impact of diaper need goes even further than simply a baby's health. Studies have shown increased risks for postpartum depression in mothers experiencing diaper need. There are also economic impacts on the entire family. Parents need diapers in order to send their children to daycare facilities. Without diapers, the child must stay at home, and the parent must miss work. It is a cyclical issue, but by providing diapers to families in need, we are helping to alleviate their stress and save money which can be used for rent, medical expenses, food, or diapers for the future.

BY THE Numbers

In the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year we provided ...



CANS OF

FORMULA



BAGS OF CLOTHING

383,121

2,239 ΤO **FAMILIES**

DIAPERS "It is a very good service because it helps us as a family with food, clothes and diapers for our children." - CJDB Client







AND

National Statistics

1 in 3 families report struggling with diaper need. **57%** of parents who rely on child care said they missed an average of four days of school or work in the past month because they didn't have diapers.







THE Families we serve

Where are our families from?*

32.6% from New Brunswick

14.1% from **Perth Amboy**

4.8% from **Edison**

92% of families earn under \$30,000 yearly regardless of family size

97% of our clients are women



*33% of clients are from other towns in Middlesex County. 15.5% are from Franklin Township or the surrounding area.

Your Gift

Your gift allows us to purchase diapers, wipes, formula, and other necessities for families that otherwise could not afford them. Because of your generosity, our staff can coordinate distribution with our volunteer delivery squad and work with our partners to ensure that families are receiving the services they need.

Diaper Drives

Thank you to everyone who held diaper drives this year, including the following organizations:

The Learning Experience - East Brunswick Pro Tapes & Specialties, Inc Sapling School St. Bartholomew Roman Catholic Church Cranbury School Spotswood DECA Rutgers University Pediatric Pharmacy Club East Brunswick High School NHS East Brunswick Regional Chamber of Commerce Be the Change Highland Park Conservative Temple Beth El Synagogue of East Windsor, NJ JCC Abrams Camp Liberty Lake Day Camp

These diaper drives, as well as those held by individuals, brought us a total of **67,902** diapers!

Diaper drives are an easy way for any local group or organization to help their local community. For more information about hosting a diaper drive, visit diaperdrive.aecdc.org or email info@centraljerseydiaperbank.org

How to Give

Make a contribution Online: donate.AECDC.org Text: NJDIAPERS to 44321 Mail a check to: 222 Livingston Avenue New Brunswick, NJ 08901

\$30 = 1 delivery
\$180 = a family's deliveries for 1 year
\$400 = 1 month of formula for 1 baby



"Running a diaper drive with the Central Jersey Diaper Bank was extremely easy to organize and taught our student activists about diaper insecurity.[...] Our students were so proud of their efforts and learned, first hand, the beauty and importance of aiding our local communities." - Sara F., Teacher at Cranbury School

Open Distribution Days

In our 2021-2022 fiscal year, we held several Open Distribution Days. These were opportunities for families to access our services while also accessing the services of other community partners. Our location in the middle of New Brunswick and near several schools has resulted in 5 extremely successful events that attracted many New Brunswick families.

At these events, we distributed diapers to 494 families.

Open Distribution Partners

Elijah's Promise Food Pantry Mobile Hot Meals program Jewish Family Services' Mobile Non-Perishable Food Pantry Reformed Church of Highland Park's Mobile Vaccine Clinic Rutgers School of Nursing, Central Jersey Family Health Consortium Robert Wood Johnson Patient Education United Way Community Affairs and Resource Center









Thankyouto our funders!









Anshe Emeth **C**ommunity Development **C**orporation















PSEG

Sidney J. Harris Charitable Trust

It's because of you that we have helped more families this year than ever before. Every bundle of diapers delivered, can of formula found during a nationwide shortage, or new outfit given to a child is thanks to your support. Thank you for making it all possible.

Board Executive Committee

MaryEllen Firestone, President Cari August, Vice President Lori Freedman, Secretary Maurice Rosenstraus, Treasurer Michelle Silver, Member at Large

> Marc Alterman Jacob Binstein Michael Brown Stephen Eisdorfer Sara Fernandez Cathi Fischer Betty Reba Linda Roth Harriet Worobey

Rabbi Phillip Bazeley, ex-officio Heather Kibel, ex-officio

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AECDC Staff

Heather Nover, Executive Director Cristina Rodriguez, Program Manager Naselin Ortez Arana, Administrative Assistant Sherell Pressley-Williams, Inventory Support Assistant



A Program of the AECDC Inc.

Anshe Emeth Community Development Corporation