

Stewardship results when the need to give is greater than the need to have.

Catholic Charities, Scout troop sponsor Diaper Drive



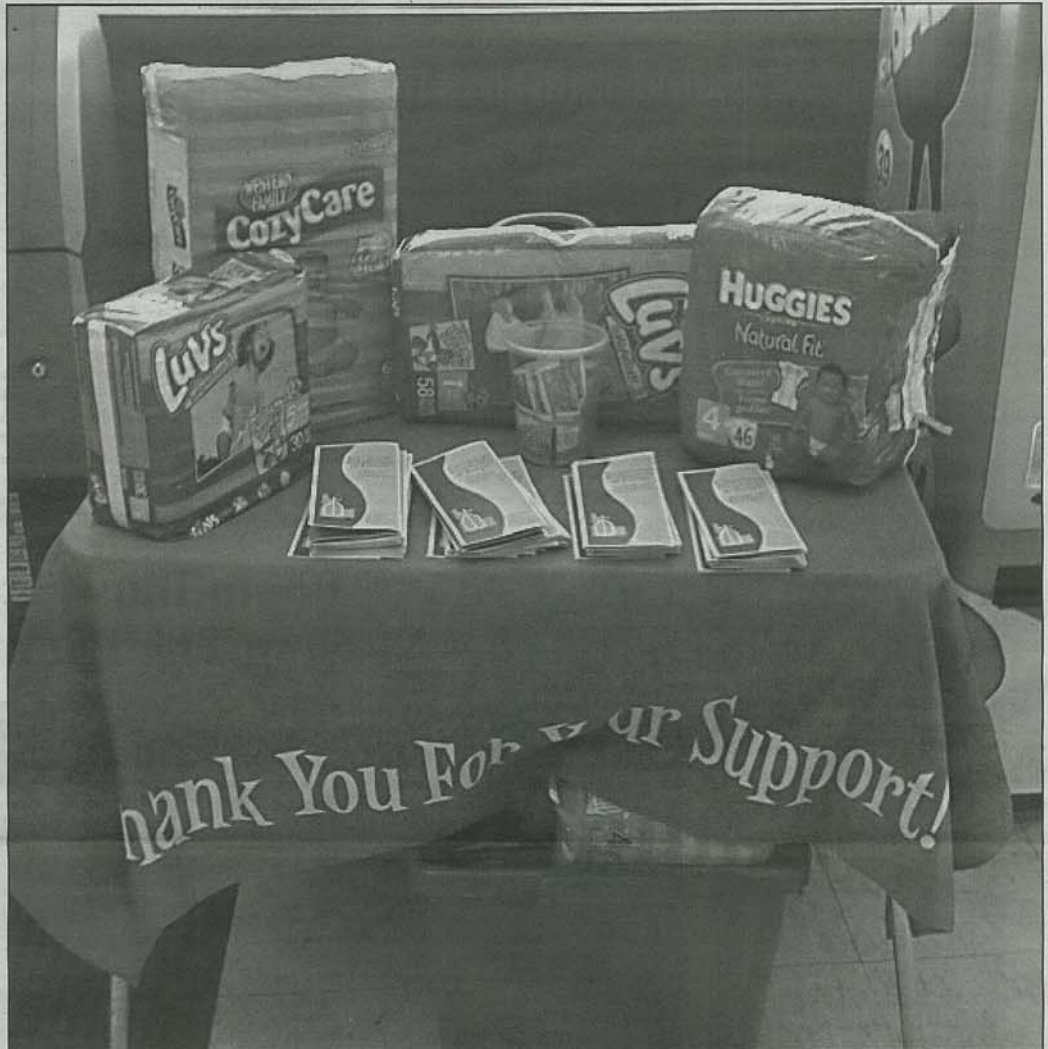
NAMPA – Sarah was thankful for many things: her home, her children and her safety. However, as she stared at the last clean diaper in the house, the term “dampened economy” suddenly took on a new meaning.

This working, single mother of three children barely had enough money to pay for rent and food, and for the childcare help that allowed her to work. Sarah receives food stamps but those can't be used to buy diapers. Out of money, hope and time, Sarah looked for help, turning to Catholic Charities of Idaho.

Janie Mendez, a Family Strengthening Worker in CCI's Nampa office, has learned to be creative. That's become more acute as the need for help continues to rise, but funding remains low. This past year, Catholic Charities has seen an increased number of families seeking diapers for their infants and toddlers. After meeting with Sarah and other clients in similar situations, Mendez tapped her organizational skills and began a diaper drive.

Together with Wendy Burgess, troop leader for the St. Paul's Girl Scouts, Mendez crafted a plan involving Girl Scouts and their parents holding a Diaper Drive quarterly in Paul's Markets, providing a continuous supply of emergency diapers for families in need.

The community response has been overwhelming. During a recent weekend, some patrons offered spare change;



DIAPER DRIVE — Generous donors provide funds and diapers at Paul's Market in Nampa for women with babies needing diapers. (ICR photo courtesy of Catholic Charities of Idaho)

others donated large bills, and a few gave three or more large packages of diapers as they exited the store.

One donation came from a disheveled man who said

he had little or no money and came into the store because he would usually get a free cup of coffee there on Saturday mornings. Before leaving, he dug around in

his pocket and placed every coin he found into the donations cup.

Although the current Diaper Drive cycle concluded in November, anyone wishing to

make a donation or provide diapers before the next date can bring the items to St. Paul Church or St. Paul Catholic School, 1515 8th St. South. All sizes are accepted.

CCI Financial Report

2009-10 Budget

