



## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, diaper need, the condition of not being able to afford a sufficient supply of clean diapers to keep babies and toddlers clean, dry, and healthy, can adversely affect the health and well-being of children and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, national surveys and research studies report that nearly one in two families struggles with diaper need, and 48 percent of families delay changing a diaper to extend the available supply; and

**WHEREAS**, a daily or weekly supply of diapers is generally an eligibility requirement for babies and toddlers to participate in childcare programs and quality early-education programs that enable children to thrive and parents to work and many parents struggling with diaper need report missing an average of five days of work each month due to an insufficient supply of diapers; and

**WHEREAS**, without enough diapers, babies and toddlers risk infections and health problems that may require medical attention resulting in medical costs, and parents may be prevented from accessing childcare needed to go to work or school, thereby destabilizing the family's economic prospects and well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, the people of Key West recognize that diaper need is a public health issue, and addressing diaper need can lead to economic opportunity for the state's families and communities and improved health for children, thus ensuring all children and families have access to the basic necessities required to thrive and reach their full potential; and

**WHEREAS**, Key West is proud to be home to trusted community-based organizations, including The Florida Keys Healthy Start Coalition & Miami Diaper Bank, that play a critical role in supporting families, improving infant health and wellbeing, and advancing our local and state economic growth.

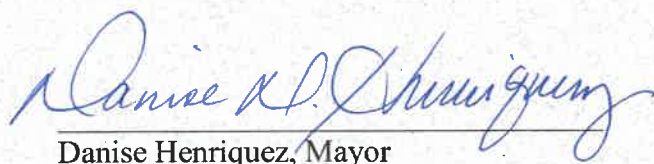
**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, DANISE HENRIQUEZ, MAYOR of the City of Key West, along with the entire Key West City Commission do hereby proclaim September 23 through September 29, 2024 as

## NATIONAL DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK

in the "Southernmost City of the Continental United States." I would like to urge all citizens, residents, and visitors of our Southernmost City to participate fittingly in the observation.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024.



  
Danise Henriquez, Mayor