

Basically Babies Bulletin

- outfitting newborns in need -

BUSINESS IS BOOMING!

It's only the end of February and we are already producing Layette #97! If this is any indication of what the year has in store for us, we are going to be VERY busy! And so now, more than ever, we appreciate the amazing commitment of all of our volunteers. **YOU** are the reason that we can continue to supply the basic essentials for all the families who would love to provide the best for their young babies but simply can't. Regardless of their choices, or their circumstances, we are committed to offering their newborns a full year's set of clothing, and your help with that goal makes what we do possible. So again, (and we can't say it enough), **THANK YOU!**

GETTING THE WORD OUT . . .

We had the opportunity to meet with Alberta Health Minister Dave Hancock recently to introduce him to the work of Basically Babies. He was so impressed by our program that he featured our organization in his recent constituency newsletter. He wrote:

"I am proud of the work Basically Babies contributes to our city. They are the only organization in Edmonton whose sole purpose is to provide for the basic outfitting needs of infants in this way. As more young and impoverished families migrate to our area, seeking a better life, the outstanding volunteers at Basically Babies give these families a practical gift as well as a sense of the hope and promise that our community has to offer."

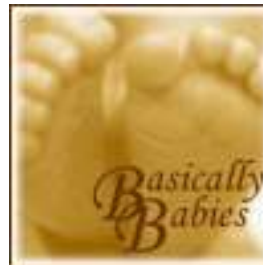
Also this month, we received a letter of appreciation from the home visitation workers at Mill Woods Family Resource Centre. Shannon Mitchell wrote:

"The Basically Babies program has been a valuable resource to me, as a home visitor and to the families that I work with ... I would like to note the joy these beautiful baskets bring to families ... The families always comment on how beautiful they are and the quality of the clothes provided. Rather than feeling bad about needing the help, families feel as though their child is being welcomed into our community."

REGULAR IN-OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Looking at the numbers of layettes requested so far this year, it's hard to believe that we thought we were busy last year, when by the end of February we had given away 44 layettes. Then there is the enormous volume of donations we have received as word of our unique service has spread in the community as a result of the Edmonton Journal article and Minister Hancock's newsletter. Consequently, we are desperately in need of committed volunteers to help in our office on *Wednesdays from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm*. Our weekly office volunteers sort donations, package layettes for washing and ironing, and organize inventory in our warehouse. If you can spare a few hours, please call the office to let us know, so that we can plan tasks for you. Bring your lunch, and join us for a fun and friendly time, helping to meet the needs in our community. We would love to get to know you and have you working with us!

MARCH 2008



WE NEED YOU!

March 17 - Work Night
at our office from 6 - 10 pm. We will be completing the ironing and assembly of layettes, as well as a number of other organizational tasks around the office. Join us for another fun and productive evening. **Please RSVP to the office @ 989-0180 or via e-mail to office @ basicallybabies.org**

May 9 - Brentwood
School Drive

2 drivers are needed to pick up donations from Brentwood School in Sherwood Park. **Please RSVP to the office (as above) if you are available to drive for this.**

GARAGE SALE 2008!!

We are planning Basically Babies' **Second Annual Garage Sale** to be held later this spring. If you are cleaning and organizing this winter, save your stuff!

One man's garbage just might be another man's treasure!

And, if you can help us to organize and run this fundraising event, please let us know.

Are you connected with an organization, company or foundation that we can approach for financial contributions? If so, please let Janet know at:

janet.wilson@basicallybabies.org

Stop by our office to see more thank you cards and letters from the families and agencies we support.

Basically Babies

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