COMMUNITY BABY SHOWER

Access to books is an important factor in children’s literacy, yet in many of the same low-income areas where diaper need is high, so is the need for books. One study shows that in low-income communities, there is an average of one book per 300 children. This is in stark contrast to middle-income communities, where, on average, there are thirteen books in a single home.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Without basic items like diapers and wipes, infants are at risk for health issues and are not able to enroll in child care centers, impacting their parents’ ability to work or attend school. Help parents raise a generation of healthy, active readers by coupling a community baby shower with an early learning initiative.

STEP 1
Determine the Need

Before applying for this project, determine a population in need. Examples of groups to target include local hospitals, women’s shelters, or other organizations that provide services to newborns and parents in need.

STEP 2
Make It A Success

Inform co-workers, friends, family members, and neighbors about the event and encourage them to donate. The most needed items are: diapers (all sizes), wipes, formula, blankets, onesies, bottles and of course, children’s board books.

STEP 3
Partner With Your Community

Consider partnering with local agencies, vendors or community groups that can provide workshops on topics such as growth and development, healthy foods and nutrition, pre-term labor, safety and play.

STEP 4
Make It Your Own

Remember the Lodge’s project must incorporate literacy. Consider partnering with local libraries, schools, or universities that can provide information and resources for parents to help develop literacy skills in young children. If this is a family-friendly baby shower, include literacy activities for children in attendance.