

FAITH-IN-ACTION

50,000 Diapers in One Year!

Sharing the Love of God with a Helping Hand to Families



Catholic Social Services of Montana's Baby Boutique has experienced nothing but successes in the past year, largely due to the generous grant received from the Foundation for the Diocese of Helena. The Baby Boutique provides diapers, wipes, clothing, and other essentials to families with young children in need with no barriers and no questions asked, outside of their first name. It has been relocated from the basement of the Cathedral of St. Helena to the Cathedral's



The new and improved Baby Boutique location in the Cathedral Center.

offices across the parking lot, as the space is more conducive to the retail-style layout of the Baby Boutique. This space allows families to "shop" for the items they need, providing a sense of respect and dignity that they normally would not have the opportunity to experience when receiving this type of charitable service.

The successes of the Baby Boutique are also its largest challenges. As the space and program grow to serve more families

in need, it continues to place a heavier strain on the resources available for families, which is why the grant received from the Foundation for the Diocese of Helena has been vital to the operation of the ministry. For the fiscal year, the Baby Boutique is on pace to distribute more than 50,000 diapers. That's a lot of diapers! That number represents a 56% growth year-over-year, following 146% growth from the previous year. While a number of these families consistently return to use the ministry, there are new families coming to the Baby Boutique every session. Additionally, staff and volunteers at the Baby Boutique distribute only 2 dozen diapers per child at a time. While the Baby Boutique does receive donations from individuals and parishes throughout the year, it would be difficult for the ministry to keep up without the generosity of the Foundation for the Diocese of Helena.

Our thanks to the Foundation for the Diocese of Helena for your support of the Baby Boutique ministry. We're reaching women, children, and families, creating healthier

families and communities, while providing first-hand witness to the love of the Church.

Since 2007, the Foundation has awarded \$1.2 million in grants to our parishes and ministries. We do this through our annual grants program, giving up to \$5,000 in grant money to applicants. Last year was the first year FDOH created an evangelization focus to these grants, renaming the program "Faith-In-Action".



Serving Montana since 1953, Catholic Social Services of Montana is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit – www.cssmt.org
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