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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Shannon Lands, PIO (419) 213-4143

June 7, 2016

### Diaper Bank Launches in Lucas County

The Toledo-Lucas County Health Department and Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio, in collaboration with the Salvation Army, are proud to launch the *Getting to 1* (GT1) Diaper Bank on Thursday, June 9, 2015. The Diaper Bank will begin as a pilot project to assess the greatest need for diapers in the Toledo-Lucas County area, as well as solidify the referral process while achieving a plan for sustainability.

Children in low-income families are at greatest risk of suffering because they cannot afford diapers. Current public support programs help, but state or federal child safety-net programs do not allocate dollars specifically for the purchase of diapers.

Home visitation agencies that have an agreement with Lucas County Job and Family Services and the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department and refer to the *Crib 4 Kids* class will be able to send their clients to the *Getting to 1* Diaper Bank. The individuals that may refer for diaper distribution include: Care Coordinators/Community Health Workers/Home Visitors and those employed by current home visitation agencies who refer their clients to the *Cribs 4 Kids* class on a continual basis.

An insufficient number of diapers may cause detrimental outcomes for children and families including lack of physical, mental, emotional and educational well-being. Additionally, an inadequate supply of diapers force many parents to leave their children in a soiled diaper longer than is appropriate—sometimes for days at a time. The mission of the *Getting to 1* Diaper Bank is to ensure that families in Lucas County who are most in need have access to diapers for their children while also raising awareness about diaper needs.

The projected length of the *Getting to 1* Diaper Bank pilot cannot be determined at this time, but possibly expand community wide in the future.

For additional information, please contact Zyishia Bailey at 419.213.4259 or [baileyz@co.lucas.oh.us](mailto:baileyz@co.lucas.oh.us).

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