PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the people of Pima County, Arizona recognize that economic opportunity for individuals can lead to improved health for families and their communities; and

WHEREAS, 30 percent of Arizona's children under five years of age and 10 percent of Arizona's seniors live in poverty; and

WHEREAS, access to a reliable supply of clean diapers is a necessity for the health and welfare of infants and toddlers, their families, child and health care providers, and for those disabled persons and seniors needing incontinence supplies; and

WHEREAS, the average infant or toddler requires an average of 50 diaper changes per week over three years, and 15-20 percent of adults over the age of 65 are incontinent; and

WHEREAS, diapers cannot be bought with food stamps (SNAP) or WIC vouchers, therefore providing a sufficient supply of diapers can cause economic hardship to needy families; and

WHEREAS, a supply of diapers is generally an eligibility requirement for infant and toddlers to participate in childcare programs and for disabled persons and seniors to live independently; and

WHEREAS, when infants and toddlers cannot participate in childcare programs, it makes it very difficult for their parents and guardians to participate in the workforce, thereby causing economic harm to many families; and

WHEREAS, Pima County is proud to be home to more than 40 community organizations that recognize the importance of diapers and incontinence supplies in helping provide economic stability for families and which distribute them to low-income families, disabled persons, and seniors through various channels;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Pima County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims the week of September 26 through October 2, 2016, to be:

"DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK"

in this County and encourages all of our residents to donate generously to diaper drives, to the Diaper Bank of Southern Arizona, which is the nation's first diaper bank, and to those organizations that distribute diapers to families in need to help alleviate diaper need in Pima County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 6th day of September 2016.

	Sharon Bronson, Chair pard of Supervisors
ATTEST:	