

CELEBRATING PARISH SUCCESSES



Diaper drives



PREPARES Bags



Community Baby
Showers



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES
OF WESTERN WASHINGTON

PREPARES is a program of
Catholic Community Services
of Western Washington

Check out our website at
www.preparesforlife.org



Find us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/PreparesWW

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A DOZEN WAYS

To get
involved in

PREPARES
Pregnancy & Parenting Support

PREPARES is a statewide initiative of the Catholic Bishops of Washington State. PREPARES provides pregnancy and parenting support services from pregnancy to the child's fifth birthday and is open to all.

1 TRAVELING CRIB
The parish community places the traveling Crib in their vestibule for a month time. The Parishioners fill the crib with baby related items such as diapers, clothing, blankets, and formula, anything that could be supportive to parents in their community. They can either choose to keep the items at their parish and distribute these items or contact the area coordinator to find a program working with parents in their community that could distribute the items for them.

2 PREPARES BAGS
The PREPARES Bags will be filled with essential items for mothers and children from conception up to a child's 5th birthday. Parishes can collect items to fill the bags for families in need. These bags would then be distributed in the community by PREPARES volunteers.

3 FATHERHOOD GROUP
Fathers in a parish can start a Fatherhood support group that meets and invites Fathers in the community to come for an evening of discussion and support.

4 FAMILY COMPANION & COMPANION TEAMS
Family Companions are volunteers who want to share an unconditional friendship with a parent in their community. A Companion Team is a group of 3-5 volunteers who provide practical, emotional, and ministry of presence to a family. Volunteers may be based out of parish group or the parish community at large.

5 PREPARES EN ESPAÑOL
Implement "A Dozen Ways" in Spanish at your parish.

6 CLOTHING CLOSET
Parishes provide a clothing closet that families can access at the parish.

7 PARENT GROUP
Coordination of parent support network. Parishes can coordinate meals or times for parents to come together and establish community.

8 BABY SHOWER
Hold an event that brings volunteers together to donate items for families. You can also you invite pregnant moms and their families to attend a Baby Shower which celebrate life and provides them with a few needed supplies such as layette baskets. You might be interested in holding these on a yearly basis.

9 PLAYING WITH LOVE
Trained volunteers facilitate a play and learn group for parents and their children, ages birth to 5 years, get together on a regular basis to focus on fun activities with toddlers and parenting support.

10 PREPARES PROMISE FUND
Lead or support fundraising activities. Funds raised can support efforts at their parish or go directly to the Promise Fund which assists families throughout the Archdiocese. Events may include breakfasts or raffles.

11 ADMIN SUPPORT
You can become a PREPARES parish coordinator who leads the efforts in your parish or providing admin support for PREPARES staff to assist in answering emails, searching for available resources, entering client information into the database, photocopying, preparing intake packets and other office tasks.

12 MANY MORE.....
PREPARES will grow based on the many talents of the individuals and groups that support families.