Mother to Mother is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides health and wellness items to mothers who need help. Together, we put crucial items such as car seats, diapers, and other essentials in the hands of families who need them, so all children have a chance to thrive.

As we approach our 20th year, Mother To Mother has distributed over 10 million items to children in homeless shelters, domestic violence programs, foster care, hospitals and underserved schools, as well as children who have lost everything in the wake of disaster.
In 2022 we were able to distribute a total of 2,632,019 items to families living below the federal poverty level across Tennessee.

1,262,455 Diapers
1,039,407 Wipes
67,012 Socks and Underwear
63,323 Hand Sanitizers
57,261 Blankets
47,016 Clothes
6,441 Toys
14,142 Bibs and Burp Cloths
3,529 Formula Containers
2,908 Books
2,596 Pacifiers
2,482 Car Seats
2,099 Bottles
1,155 Cribs and Pack 'n Plays

We were also able to extend our reach further than ever with the help of our community:

300+ Volunteers
20 Bus Events in 12 Counties
123 Community Partner Agencies
WAREHOUSE SHOP:
Our community partner agencies register weekly to visit our warehouse “shop”.

Case workers, nurses, school counselors and the like, come with lists of items to collect for the children they serve - some partners come multiple times a week and some pick up for 10 kids at a time. Returning to their agencies, non-profits, or schools, families receive essential items on behalf of Mother To Mother.

This program allows our partner organizations to stay focused on their mission while allowing us to come alongside as a silent partner to serve their families.
We serve the community directly through our bus distribution events, prioritizing our distressed and most at risk communities. Our partner agencies host us throughout the state, either as the anchor of a community baby shower or as a stand alone event.

These events draw 300-600 people and allow us to distribute $50,000 worth of items in a few hours.

We do these at least twice a month, allowing us to connect with the community we serve directly by providing diapers, clothes, gear, hygiene, bedding, etc.
Since we acquired our vehicles in 2018, we have been able to serve families in 35 of the 95 counties across Tennessee. Our goal is to have reached every county in Tennessee by 2025.

Bedford  Davidson  Humphreys  Marshall  Putnam  Sumner
Benton    Dekalb    Knox      Maury     Roane    Weakley
Bledsoe   Dickson   Lake      Montgomery Robertson White
Cannon    Dyer      Lauderdale Morgan    Rutherford Williamson
Cheatham  Grundy   Lincoln   Overton   Scott    Williamson
Coffee    Houston   Macon     Perry     Stewart  Wilson
DIAPERS
Diapers are the #1 requested item for the families we serve. Diapers are the 4th HIGHEST household expense, after rent, food, and utilities, for low income families.
Without clean diapers, babies are exposed to potential health risks and toxic stress and mothers are at risk for increased maternal depression.

Most daycares require a FULL DAY’S SUPPLY OF DIAPERS for children to be dropped off, which means parents without are turned away.

1 in 3 families in the U.S. struggles to afford diapers for their baby.

Diapers are NOT covered by SNAP or WIC

Sources: Center for Economic And Policy Research, National Diaper Bank Network, Huggies & NDBN Study - Diaper Need and Its Impact on US Families
RESPONSIVE PROGRAMMING
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND HOMELESS SHELTERS:

The idea for Mother To Mother was conceived while Janie was volunteering at a DV shelter in Boston. Janie realized that many shelters had plenty of support for mothers, but nothing for their children. As a result, some of our earliest partners at Mother To Mother were domestic violence and homeless shelters.

In a perfect world, women wouldn’t feel tethered to their possessions, keeping them stuck with their abusers. When women and children have fled a dangerous situation and arrive to a shelter without any belongings, Mother To Mother supports rebuilding a new life by supplying families with essentials and comfort items.
HOSPITALS AND CLINICS:

Mother To Mother started with closet for an office at Nashville General Hospital. In our early days, we stocked the local hospitals weekly to make sure they had the car seats necessary for families in need.

Today, Mother To Mother partners with nurses and hospitals across Tennessee to provide new parents with essential items. Our programs ensure the children have a car seat to get home and a safe place to sleep once they arrive.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Mother To Mother provided over a million diapers, masks, hand sanitizers and more to hospitals and clinics navigating unprecedented times.
UNDER-SERVED SCHOOLS:

Over the last 19 years, Mother To Mother has distributed hundreds of thousands of items to under-served schools, Head-Starts, and early education centers across Tennessee, including:

- School Supplies
- Sanitizer
- Uniforms
- Food
- Clothing
- Soap
- Shampoo
- and more..

Our annual Back To School programs partner with Title I schools across Nashville to address the immediate needs of low-income children, removing any possible barriers to children in school.
DISASTER RELIEF:

Mother To Mother has distributed over 1 million emergency supplies to children and families devastated by natural disasters in Tennessee and Kentucky.

Our program addresses the immediate needs of low-income children affected by natural disasters like fires, floods, and tornadoes.

2020: Tennessee Tornadoes
2021: Tennessee Floods
2022: Kentucky Floods

As a result of our disaster relief efforts, we have been asked to support the Governor as a member of VOAD.
FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTIVE FAMILIES:

At Mother To Mother, we believe that the cost of essentials should never be a barrier to placing a child with a loving family. Taking the burden off of parents and making sure families have what they need to confidently and comfortably foster or adopt a child is the foundation of our work.

When DCFS social workers are called to investigate a new case, they must detain children coming from abusive and dangerous conditions. Children are often removed from their homes with no belongings. Along with the essentials – clothes, pajamas, diapers, shoes, hygiene items – Mother To Mother provides comfort items including stuffed animals, cozy blankets, toys, and books.
Keeping gently used donations out of the landfill is as important as the cash needed to keep our lights on. Our community responded quickly when COVID-19 hit – skyrocketing us to the next level of growth – but with the cost of living on the rise, the needs for our community are greater than ever. We need to increase capital funds to be able to continue to help our low income families thrive.
The pandemic dramatically exposed the needs of the families we serve and making it obvious that Mother To Mother’s work is never done. Our operating expenses are growing as a result of the response from our community as we continue to support families in need.

**RAPID GROWTH SINCE THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.**

Donations and Drives bring in millions of items, avoiding landfills and dumps. We are driven to give baby essentials new life with second (and third) families, but we need funds to continue our inspiring work in the community.

**IN KIND DONATIONS EXCEED MONETARY DONATIONS.**

Our existing families are being served adequately, but there is so much more we can do. By getting in front of new audiences, we are able to expand the number of donors and mothers in need. With the help of corporate partners, we can reach further than ever before.
OUR TEAM

Our group works tirelessly to make sure our partners and families are thriving and well cared for. This group of experts are the driving force behind the incredible work that Mother To Mother accomplishes.

Janie Busbee  
Executive Director and Founder

Denise Anderson  
Director of Operations

Dove Buppert  
Director of Marketing and Development

Aaron Spraggs  
Warehouse Manager

Sammy Cameron  
Community Outreach Coordinator
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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