

Anonymous and Safe Relinquishment of a Newborn Baby

Hospital Training



The Ideal World

- All pregnancies would be planned and wanted
- Newborns welcomed into the home
- Raised in a safe and loving household



Why a Pregnancy May Not be Welcomed

Admission of pregnancy

- Sexual assault
- Fear of confronting disapproving family
- Fear of disownment
- Fear of death



Consequences of Hiding a Pregnancy

- No prenatal care
- No mental health counseling or services
- No counseling for a traditional adoption



Consequences of Hiding a Pregnancy

- Deliver on her own with no medical care
- Abandonment of a newborn in an unsafe place

[Houston– Hours-old baby found covered in ants 8/12/2017](#)

[California– Woman charged with trying to kill baby in toilet 9/4/2017](#)



UTAH DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH



UTAH NEWBORN
Safe Haven

The Utah Newborn Safe Haven, or 'baby drop-off' law, allows a birth mother or any other person to anonymously turn over a newborn to any employee at a Utah hospital.



The Law ...

- Protects infants from injury and death
- Provides a safe place for newborns
- Allows secrecy and anonymity for any person dropping off the newborn

(Utah Code Ann. Sec. § 62A-4a-802)



Utah Law

- Newborns 3 days old
(Accept any child any person tries to give you!)
- Newborn taken or dropped off at a hospital
- To emergency room for a health evaluation



Do not hesitate
to accept a newborn
from anyone!



Medical History of the Newborn

A person dropping off the newborn *may wish* to provide medical information on the health of the infant or medical history of the parents.

Names should not be given.

Medical History Form can be found at

[http://www.utahsafehaven.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/Medical Questionnaire 1.pdf](http://www.utahsafehaven.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/Medical_Questionnaire_1.pdf)



Utah Newborn Safe Haven

Optional Medical Questionnaire

If you choose, fill out this form and bring it with your newborn. You may mail it at a later time to the address provided.

Baby's Birth Date: _____

Was your Baby born early, before its due date? Yes / No / Unsure

Were there any problems with the pregnancy? Yes / No / Unsure

If yes, what were they?

Did you smoke, use alcohol, drugs or any medication during the pregnancy? Yes / No / Unsure

If yes, explain:

Please check any of the medical conditions that you have. If you know any of the medical conditions that the father might have, please check those as well.

Condition:	Mother	Father
Diabetes		
Asthma		
Seizures		
Cancer		
High Blood Pressure		
Mental Illness		

Please list any allergies that you have, or that your baby's father may have:

Are you aware of any health problems that run in your family, or your baby's father's family? If yes, please describe what they are:

Please feel free to include a note to your baby, or the people who will adopt your child. If you like, you could use the back of this printed form.



Hospital Responsibilities

- Health evaluation on newborn
- Notify Hospital Birth Certificate Clerk
- Contact Utah Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS)

utah department of
human services
1-855-323-3237



**STATE OF UTAH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
CERTIFICATE OF LIVE BIRTH
FOUNDLING**

LOCAL FILE NUMBER

STATE FILE NUMBER

THIS CHILD	1. CHILD'S NAME			FIRST	MIDDLE	LAST
	2. SEX	3. DATE OF BIRTH (Approximate)			(Month)	(Day)
PLACE FOUND / ASSUMPTION OF CUSTODY	5a. PLACE FOUND (Give Street Address)		5b. CITY OR TOWN	5c. COUNTY		8. DATE OF FINDING OR ASSUMPTION OF CUSTODY (Month) (Day) (Year)
	PERSON OR INSTITUTION WITH WHOM CHILD HAS BEEN PLACED			7. FULL NAME OF PERSON OR INSTITUTION)		
INFORMANT'S CERTIFICATION	I certify that the foregoing information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief		9. SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT			10. DATE SIGNED
REGISTRAR'S CERTIFICATION	11. REGISTRAR'S SIGNATURE				12. DATE RECEIVED BY STATE REGISTRAR	
13. BRIEF STATEMENT OF CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE FINDING OF THE CHILD. (Use reverse side of certificate if more space is needed)						

UDCH-OVRS 4, Rev 201



UTAH DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH



DCFS will find a foster family to take care of the newborn

A search will then be done to find an adoptive family



What communities are at risk?

ALL



- Teens
- Older mothers with other children
- Women in abusive relationships
- Religious beliefs and traditions



Who can drop-off a newborn?

Any designee of the birth parent



What Newborn Safe Haven Program Can Offer

- Materials - Posters (English/Spanish)
- Other support?
- Questions?



Old poster



**Are You
Hiding
Your
Pregnancy?**

Have you already ruled out
-Keeping the baby?
-Adoption?

**There is a
Safe Place
for Newborns**

No Questions - No Police - No Names

Utah law states, you cannot be arrested for giving up your newborn at any hospital in Utah. You DO NOT need to identify yourself and you DO NOT need to answer any questions.

24/7
Confidential
Line **1-866-458-0058**
www.utahsafehaven.org


UTAH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



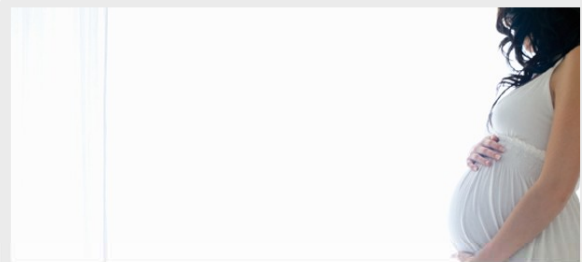
New poster design
coming up soon!



← → ↻ 🏠 utahsafehaven.org/Home.html ☆




Home About FAQ Hospitals Resources Contact Spanish





You have hidden your pregnancy.


The Utah Newborn Safe Haven law is designed to prevent the tragic situation where a woman abandons her newborn in an unsafe place, jeopardizing the life of the infant.

[Read More](#)

A Utah law provides protection for you and your newborn.  1(866)-458-0058

 **Safe Haven Law**
 In May 2001, a state-wide law went into effect in Utah allowing birth parents to anonymously give up custody of their newborn child without facing any legal consequences.

 **What We Do**
 Utah Safe Haven promotes information about the Utah Safe Haven law, empowering new mothers with information about a safe alternative to abandonment.

 **Resources**
 Our [Resources](#) page has the Teacher Tool Kit, links for emergency child care resources, depression help, and [crisis intervention](#).



Questions

Utah Department of Health

Utah Newborn Safe Haven

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