

# Hospital Training

## Anonymous and Safe Relinquishment of a Newborn Baby



# The Ideal World

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



# Why would someone hide a pregnancy or not admit to being pregnant?

- 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

[18-year-old Utah mother accused of murdering newborn baby](#)  
[10.6.23](#)

The Utah Newborn Safe Haven, or 'baby drop-off' law, allows a birth parent or someone they choose to legally and anonymously give up custody of their newborn at any hospital in Utah. They do not have to identify themselves or answer any questions.



## 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. § 80-4-502)

## Utah Law

- Newborns 90 days old and younger  
(Accept any child any person tries to give you!)
- Newborn taken or dropped off at a hospital
- Hospital staff shall provide any necessary medical care to the newborn child.



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.

Utah Law states that names and other personal identifying information do not need to be provided.

## Hospital Responsibilities

- Shall provide necessary child care
- Notify Hospital Birth Certificate Clerk
- Contact Utah Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) at (801) 538-4100 within 24 hours



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safe haven

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 (Month) (Day) (Year) 4. TIME OF BIRTH (Approximate)
PLACE FOUND / ASSUMPTION OF CUSTODY	5a. PLACE FOUND (Give Street Address)	5b. CITY OR TOWN 5c. COUNTY 6. 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 8. ADDRESS	
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)	

DCFS will place the child in the care of a foster family until an adoptive family is found.



What communities are at risk?

**ALL**

## Risk factors:

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

Who can drop-off a newborn?

**The birth parent or someone they  
choose**



# What Newborn Safe Haven Program Can Offer

- Materials – Posters (English/Spanish)
- Support
- Questions?



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[Resources](#) [Adoption Info](#) [About](#) [FAQs](#)

[Find a Hospital](#)



# Safely give up your newborn at any hospital

If you are thinking of giving up your baby, there are options. We're here to help.

[Find a hospital](#)

[Translate »](#)



24/7 Hotline: **866-458-0058**

[www.utahsafehaven.org](http://www.utahsafehaven.org)

# Questions

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