

Safe Haven
Baby Boxes

BABY BOX PROGRAM

Maryland

Presentation 2026

Visit Our Website
SHBB.ORG

ABOUT US

Monica Kelsey founded Safe Haven Baby Boxes in 2015 after an inspiring trip to South Africa. During this trip, Monica saw a Baby Box in action and saw how it provided a safety net for parents in crisis. Monica made it her mission to help parents in crisis as her own birth mother was when she abandoned Monica as an infant. The first step is raising awareness and educating the public about the Safe Haven laws.

Safe Haven Baby Boxes is the only organization providing an anonymous option for parents to safely surrender their infant. Illegal abandonments show us that mothers are seeking to keep their identity secret. We seek to rewrite the story by giving mothers and innocent infants a better chance. The infant will go through a closed adoption and the parents free from prosecution.

Our organization staffs a 24 Hour National Crisis Hotline, 1-866-99BABY1. The hotline has provided counseling for over 7000 callers from all over the United States. This service has led to over 225 babies surrendered at Safe Haven locations and over 85 babies thus far surrendered in a Baby Box.



WHY DO COMMUNITIES NEED A BABY BOX?

Many women in crisis want and need anonymity when surrendering an infant, either because of fear of being recognized, the stigma associated with the surrender, or fear of prosecution due to the lack of knowledge and misunderstanding of the Safe Haven law.

It provides the community the opportunity to proactively save the lives of children since many are not aware of the Safe Haven Law.

Lack of knowledge about the law and prohibiting anonymity has historically produced catastrophic and devastating results of babies being abandoned.

The Baby Box is tangible, and the Safe Haven law is not. By having a Baby Box in the community, you are providing an opportunity to further educate about the law.

We hope and pray for a face-to-face surrender as it benefits both the mother and infant. The Safe Haven Baby Box hotline provides counseling to women in crisis and only suggests the Baby Box when it is the last option.

Newborn 'doing well' after allegedly being left in tent in freezing woods

December 2022

Horrible headline. Graphic details. Heartbreaking outcome.

- 26 year old mother gave birth and abandoned her infant in a tent in frigid temperatures causing hypothermia in the infant
- She gave misleading information delaying the discovery of the baby
- Mother claims she did not know she was pregnant and now faces 5 charges
- The infant thankfully survived a tragic start to his life

Maryland's Safe Haven Law

60 DAYS OLD TO SURRENDER BY A PARENT

LOCATIONS FOR SAFE SURRENDER

HOSPITAL, POLICE STATION, FIRE DEPARTMENT (VOLUNTEER INCLUDED) AND BABY BOX



DETAILS:

INFANT MUST BE DIRECTLY HANDED TO PROVIDER OR MAY UTILIZE AN INFANT SAFETY DEVICE AT DESIGNATED LOCATION IF ONE IS AVAILABLE. IF THERE IS NOT STAFF AT A SPECIFIC LOCATION, PLEASE CALL 1-866-99BABY1 FOR HELP.

PROVIDER TO IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

HOW DOES THE BABY BOX WORK?



Road to Active Baby Box

1. Meet with your community leaders, fire station, or hospital administration to review the Safe Haven Baby Box Program.
2. Contract for SHBB is reviewed by attorney and fundraising begins.
3. Baby Box order is placed and approximately 4 weeks later the box is produced. During this time the location will search for a licensed contractor to install the box and an alarm system company.
4. Contract (Lease and Service Agreement) is signed with location and initial fee is sent to SHBB.
5. Baby Box delivered and installed by licensed contractor.
6. Alarm is set up and tested. It must reach 7 successful days of consecutive testing.
7. Training for Safe Haven Baby Box provider personnel.
8. Baby Box Unveiling and Blessing occurs.
9. Baby Box goes live and available to aid infants with parents in crisis.

Initial fee: $16,500

Pre-installation Services

A. Examination of location
B. Administrative/Legal resources
C. Consultation on programs
D. Assitance with raising funds to support cost of the Baby Box (optional)

Installation Services

A. Inspection of Installation
B. Training to all emergency personnel

State Law Requires a Camera

Annual fee: $600

Annual Fee Services

A. Recertification of the Baby Box by a licensed contractor
B. Maintenance of the Baby Box from expected use

Post Installation Services

A. Marketing of the Baby Box
B. 24/7 Hotline available to community
C. Advertising of the Box
D. Efforts to support raising awareness on local, state and national levels supporting the Baby Box in each community

Other fees not included in initial fee (estimated at $5,000-$7,000)

*Fees vary based on location and/or services donated by local community members. The items below are estimates and not a guarantee of cost.

A. Delivery: Minimum $500 charge if you would like to have the Baby Box delivered. You can pick up at our Fort Wayne, IN manufacturing facility to waive the delivery charge. (Must be pre-scheduled)

B. Installation: Labor and materials: $2000- $3,500 (location may be able to have this donated)

C. Electrical and Alarm: hook up to internal alarm system (Internal alarm must go to 911 dispatch for use with the Baby Box) ~ $1,200

D. Annual Alarm Services: Annual fee for monitoring ~$500 annually paid by location to Alarm Company

E. Transportation: Cost based on location and transportation from Indiana

F. Permits or other requirements prior to contruction. (varies)

thank you!!





your support changes lives
and builds family

