#### What is Safe Haven?

Safe Haven is a specific location where a mother (or father) can hand over their unharmed infant, who is less than 45 days old, into safe care. This can be done without fear of prosecution.

### What happens to my baby?

The baby is immediately taken to a local hospital where he/she will receive an exam and be given medical care, if needed. Then the local child protective services will assume custody of your child and will be responsible for finding him/her a loving and stable home.

# Gift of Love:

"When we adopted our baby girl, we couldn't believe how blessed we felt. After years of trying to make a family of our own, we were brought to tears by the selflessness and love the birth mother showed. We thank God every night that she had the strength to make the incredibly difficult decision that changed so many lives for the better.

As an adoptive mother, I can never thank my daughter's birth mother enough for giving me the greatest gift anyone could give."

"I will forever admire her for doing what was right for her and for our daughter."

### People Who Help

Catholic Charities 2707 Vine Ste 17 Hays, KS 67601 785-625-2644 1-877-625-2644 www.ccnks.org

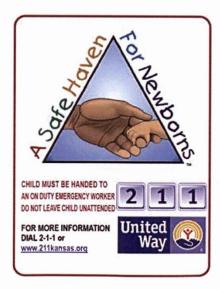
High Plains Mental Health Center 785-628-2871 www.highplainsmentalhealth.com

Post Partum Resource Center of Kansas 1-866-363-1300 www.kansasppd.org

#### TOLL FREE CRISIS HOTLINE 1-888-510-BABY

www.asafehavenfornewborns.com www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org/states/kansas

www.mchc.net



## SAFEHAVEN for newborns

YOUR FIRST ACT OF LOVE WAS TO GIVE YOUR BABY LIFE...



A loving option is to give your newborn a safe haven.

# Not all pregnant women are ready to be mothers,



YOU MAY FEEL AFRAID, OVERWHELMED, HELPLESS, ASHAMED OR ISOLATED.

## but still want to act with love.

Your love may mean you choose to parent your child..

Your love may mean you choose to place your child with adoptive parents... (a legal arrangement agreed upon before the baby is born)

Your love may mean you choose a **Safe Haven** for your baby.

Whichever action you choose, you are not alone.



\_Don't panic

Kansas has Infant Safe Haven Laws that protect you and provide care for your baby.

# Where are the Safe Haven facilities in my town?

In Kansas all hospitals, 24-hour fire stations, police stations, city and county health departments are specific Safe Havens for newborns. The infant may be handed to any employee who is on duty at these facilities.

What should I know about taking my newborn to a Safe Haven?

- Your baby must be unharmed.
- You will not be judged.
- It must be HAND to HAND.

In other words, you must physically give your baby to a staff person on duty. To leave or abandon a child, unattended, in a waiting room or lobby is not lawful under the Safe Haven Law.

## What if I change my mind?

The legal termination of custody will happen AFTER your three month waiting period. If you change your mind contact your local Department for Children and Families.

What will I have to tell the staff at Safe Haven when I give them my baby?

YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO GIVE ANY INFORMATION ABOUT YOURSELF OR YOUR BABY.

You may be given a medical questionnaire and an envelope by the staff at the Safe Haven location. You may choose to fill it out and mail it anonymously at a later date. But you are not obligated to do so.

However, if you want to leave information with your baby, you can fill out the simple form below and bring it with you.

This will help caregivers provide the best health care now and in the future to your child.

Baby's Fi (optional)	rst Name:			VE	Lally Lally
Date of E	Birth:	_			
Was the	baby born	early (	oremati	ıre)?	
	YES	NO			
Did you r were pre	eceive do	ctor car	e while	you	
	YES	NO			
Does the	mother o	r father	have a	nv	
	mother o or illnesse				t)?
allergies	or illnesse	es (if kn	own ple		t)?