
Give your baby a chance.

Kelli's Story

My name is Kelli and I found out I was pregnant when I was a freshman in high school. I was so scared that I hid my pregnancy from my family and friends. I worried that people would reject me or be angry with me if they found out I was pregnant. I was wrong.

I delivered my baby by myself. Because I was still too frightened to talk to anyone and ask for help, I made a terrible mistake that I can never take back. I left my newborn on a neighbor's porch. My baby died there, and my life will never be the same. I don't want the same thing to happen to you and your baby.

Please, if you are pregnant, talk to a parent, a teacher, a parent of your friend or other adult that you trust. I know that talking about your pregnancy is difficult, but not talking about it can lead to tragedy.

If you don't want to keep your child, please give him or her a chance to grow up. A new law in Illinois allows you to leave your newborn baby at a staffed fire station, hospital or emergency care facility. Babies up to three days old will be given a health exam and medical care, and then adopted by a loving family.

For confidential information or help, please call 1-866-694-BABY



Save Abandoned Babies Foundation
55 East Erie, Unit 2905
Chicago, IL 60611

A large, light blue silhouette of a pregnant woman, facing right, with her hand resting on her belly. The text is overlaid on this silhouette.

***Is your situation
hopeless?***

Don't panic!

***Illinois has a
safe place for
your newborn.***

The logo for Save Abandoned Babies Foundation, featuring a stylized blue hand holding a baby's head, with the text "Save Abandoned Babies Foundation" around it.

saveabandonedbabies.org

*No one knew you were pregnant.
No one knows about your baby.
What are you going to do?*

If you are pregnant, or know someone who is pregnant, and desperate, help is available.

An unwanted pregnancy can be a traumatic experience. You may have overwhelming feelings of isolation, fear, or shame that could lead to irrational thoughts or acts such as unsafely abandoning your baby.

Each year in Illinois, there are disturbing reports of newborn babies found in Dumpsters and other unsafe places. Illinois now has a new law. Under the Abandoned Newborn Infant Protection Act, infants younger than three days old can be left at safe havens. No questions will be asked. You don't have to give your name. The police will not be called. Your baby will get medical care, be adopted and given a chance at life.

Where are safe havens?

In Illinois, these safe places for newborns are all:

- Staffed fire stations
- Staffed police stations
- Hospitals
- Emergency care facilities

What does the law do?

The new law saves babies. It says that parents who do not harm their baby cannot be prosecuted for abandonment if they bring their baby to a safe place. It gives a desperate parent a responsible alternative.

What happens at a safe haven?

Newborns can be brought to a hospital, emergency care facility, staffed police station or staffed fire station. Fire and police station staff make arrangements for transportation to the nearest hospital.

Hospital personnel will do an extensive physical examination of the child and provide any needed care. The hospital then gains temporary custody of the newborn infant until he/she is discharged to an adoption agency.

If you wish, you can fill out forms to provide medical information about your newborn that will help healthcare workers taking care of your baby. The forms may be filled out at the hospital, fire station or police station. Or you may take the forms home and return them by mail. All the information you provide is confidential. You do not need to give your name.

Parental rights

Biological parents should be aware that they are voluntarily terminating their parental rights, which makes the child available for adoption.

Consider adoption

Every child deserves a safe, loving, permanent home. You can help provide this by planning to have your baby adopted, even before giving birth. Several public and private agencies in Illinois provide services to those who choose to free their children for adoption. Agency staff carefully interview and check the backgrounds of prospective adoptive parents (single or married) to make sure they:

- Have no criminal or child abuse history
- Have room in their home for a child
- Can support the child financially
- Can provide a loving, safe home

For information about adoption, please call the Illinois Adoption Registry: 1-877-323-5299 (toll-free in Illinois) or www.idph.state.il.us/vital/iladoptreg.htm.

For confidential information or help, please contact:

**Newborn Lifeline Network
Toll-free • 1-866-694-BABY**

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www.saveabandonedbabies.org