



**“I’m  
having a  
baby I  
can’t take  
care of.”**

**Don’t panic!**  
**D.C. has a safe place  
for your newborn.**

## Are you pregnant and desperate? Help is here!

An unwanted pregnancy can be traumatic. You feel scared, worried, and very alone. You may even think about hurting yourself or your baby. Please don't do something reckless! There's a way to make a safe choice for you and your baby without getting into any trouble.

### Safe haven is a responsible choice.

D.C. has a safe haven law that protects newborns and their parents. The law says that parents won't get into any trouble as long as they:

- Don't harm the newborn and
- Bring the newborn to a safe place.

No matter how desperate you feel, safe haven is a responsible choice you can make without breaking the law.

### Where are safe havens? Who can use them?

Hospitals are the safe haven locations in the District. They are located in every area of the city and open around the clock. See the list at the bottom of this page. Using a hospital as a safe haven is an option for any D.C. resident who is the parent of a newborn less than 14 days old.

### What happens at a safe haven?

If you are a D.C. resident and the parent of a newborn less than 14 days old:

- You may give your infant to workers at one of the hospital safe havens in D.C.
- You won't have to give your name. No one will call the police.
- The hospital will ask you to fill out some forms with health information. Giving a medical history will help your baby get the best care—but it's your choice whether to fill out the forms or not.
- Hospital staff will give the baby a medical exam and provide any needed care.
- Within a day, the DC Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA) will take over caring for the baby. CFSA will place the baby in a safe foster home.

### What happens after the safe haven?

When you leave your baby at a safe haven, you agree to give up your rights as the baby's parent. This paves the way for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia to make your baby available for adoption. Many people are eager to adopt infants. The baby has a very good chance of growing up in a safe, loving home. That opportunity for a good life is a gift from you to the baby.

Look for this sign.



Safe haven is a responsible choice.  
For confidential information or help, call  
**1-855-442-2229**

## Safe Haven Locations in the District of Columbia

Northeast	Southwest	Southeast
Providence Hospital 1150 Varnum Street, NE	Specialty Hospital of Washington 4601 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, SW	St. Elizabeth's Hospital 1100 Alabama Avenue, SE
HSC Pediatric Center 1731 Bunker Hill Road, NE		United Medical Center 1310 Southern Avenue, SE
Specialty Hospital of Washington 700 Constitution Avenue, NE		
Northwest		
Children's National Medical Center 111 Michigan Avenue, NW	George Washington University Hospital 901 23 <sup>rd</sup> Street, NW	Georgetown University Hospital 3800 Reservoir Road, NW
Howard University Hospital 2041 Georgia Avenue, NW	National Rehabilitation Hospital 102 Irving Street, NW	Psychiatric Institute of Washington 4228 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Sibley Memorial Hospital 5255 Loughboro Road, NW	Washington Hospital Center 110 Irving Street, NW	

