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**Government of the District of Columbia**  
Child and Family Services Agency



**Newborn Safe Haven Program:  
Annual Status Report 2014**

Submitted to the Committee on Health and Human Services

January 5, 2015

## Newborn Safe Haven Program Annual Status Report 2014

CFSA Submission to DC Council Committee on Health and Human Services  
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### Introduction

*The Newborn Safe Haven Act of 2010* law (L18-158) allows a parent who resides in the District of Columbia to surrender a newborn infant less than 14 days old to staff at designated hospitals (Authorized Receiving Facilities) in the District confidentially and without fear of prosecution, if there is no evidence of child abuse or neglect. Hospitals are required to notify the Child and Family Services (CFSA) immediately when a newborn is surrendered under the law. Within 23 hours, CFSA will take custody of the newborn from the hospital. At this point, CFSA will provide foster care services to the newborn while seeking a permanent home through adoption.

The law requires annually on January 1st the submission of a status report giving an update on the number of newborns in the District of Columbia surrendered under the law within the year. This status report is being submitted to the Committee on Health and Human Services to fulfill the requirement.

### Status Report

The following are CFSA's responses to questions found in Section 107 "Status Report" in *The Newborn Safe Haven Act of 2010*.

#### **1. Number of newborns surrendered and dates of surrender**

There were no newborns surrendered under the Newborn Safe Haven law in the District from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014.

#### **2. Services provided to surrendered newborns**

No newborns were surrendered under the law so therefore no services were provided.

#### **3. Outcome of the care provided for each surrendered newborn**

See response for question 2.

#### **4. Number and disposition of cases of surrendered newborns**

See response for question 2.

### Activities

In conclusion, CFSA worked collaboratively with the DC Hospital Association and hospitals around implementing the law. CFSA will provide updated training to Authorized Receiving Facilities in an effort to ensure that staffs are abreast of the policies and procedures in the event that a newborn is surrendered.