

**Attn: Senate Public Health & Welfare
Committee**

HB 2024

Angie Malik - Proponent Testimony

SAFE HAVEN BABY BOXES 2022 INFORMATIONAL PACKET

Thank you so much for your interest in Safe Haven Baby Boxes! We are so grateful for your dedication to changing the outcome for mothers in crisis and infants. The process may be a long journey to installing a baby box, but we assure you it is well worth it to save a child. In this packet we have detailed the steps to guide you through the process of installing a Baby Box. Safe Haven Baby Boxes are a crucial component for mothers seeking anonymity. We dream of Safe Haven Baby Boxes in all 50 states, which is possible with help from incredible supporters as yourself!

**CHECK OUT OUR PSA
(click below):**

[Safe Haven Baby Boxes PSA](#)



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 launched the first baby box in America at a fire station in April 2016.

Safe Haven Baby Boxes provides 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 101 babies surrendered at Safe Haven locations and 12 babies thus far surrendered in a baby box.

HOW DO THE BABY BOXES WORK?

The Safe Haven Baby Box is a state of the art device. It legally permits a mother in crisis to safely, securely, and anonymously surrender her unwanted newborn. The Baby Box is a climate controlled safety device provided for under a state's Safe Haven Law. The installation of the box occurs on the exterior wall of a firehouse or hospital.

Prior to the box installation, tests occur at every stage of design, development, and deployment. It features multiple alarms in the device which alert first responders there has been a baby surrendered. The boxes alarms are tested weekly to ensure there will be no failures. None of these alarm systems have ever failed. The staff responsible for the box is trained on how the device operates.

The parent opens the door to the baby box, which triggering a silent alarm and a call goes to 911 dispatch. The infant is placed in a medical bassinet that is a feature for additional safety. A sensor located on the inside of the box triggers a second 911 dispatch call. The exterior door automatically locks upon placement of a newborn. Within five minutes the infant will be rescued by first responders. An interior door allows a medical staff member to secure the surrendered newborn from inside the designated building. Evaluation of the infant occurs including medical examination at the hospital.



Why Do Communities Need Safe Haven Baby Boxes?

The points below are from leaders of communities who supported the installation of the Baby Box in their community.

It provides the community an opportunity to play a role in proactively saving the lives of children since many are not aware of the Safe Haven law.

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

.....

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.

.....

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.

.....

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.

STEP BY STEP GUIDE

THROUGH BABY BOX PROCESS

Beginning through Production Steps

1

Contact us to make us aware of your interest in procuring a Baby Box for your community. We can confirm if your state follows our standard procedure or requires additional steps.

2



Meet with your community leaders, fire station, or hospital administration to review the Safe Haven Baby Box Program.

3

Contract for SHBB is reviewed by attorney and fundraising begins with policy attached below.



4



Contract (Lease and Service Agreement) is signed with location and initial fee is sent to SHBB.

5

Baby Box order is placed and approximately 4 weeks later the box is produced. During this production time the location will search for a licensed contractor to install the box and an alarm system company.

Install through Unveiling Steps

6

Baby Box delivered and installed by licensed contractor.



7



Alarm is set up and tested. It must reach 7 successful days of consecutive testing.

8

Training for Safe Haven Baby Box provider personnel.



9



Baby Box Unveiling and Blessing occurs.

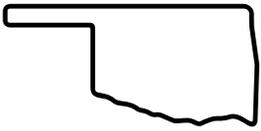
10

Baby Box goes live and available to aid infants with parents in crisis.

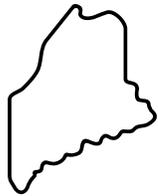


Existing States with Legislation Passed

The following states have the legislation passed in order to allow for the placement of Safe Haven Baby Boxes.



Oklahoma



Maine



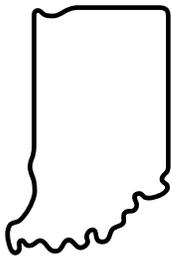
Arizona



Kentucky



Arkansas



Indiana



Ohio



Louisiana



Missouri

If the area you are seeking to place a Baby Box is not listed here it is possible to pass a city ordinance permitting placement of Safe Haven Baby Box. Due to the time it takes to pass legislation through states, it is the fastest route to alter the city ordinance. Yet, ideally all states would allow for anonymous surrender and we have a team in place to work on passing legislation at the state level.

The fees for Safe Haven Baby Boxes range from \$11,000-\$16,000 depending on installation and location.

*These prices are good for 90 days after the receipt of this informational packet *

THIRD PARTY DONATION SOLICITATION POLICIES

Safe Haven Baby Boxes Inc. (SHBB) appreciates individuals and organizations as they solicit donations to benefit its programs and services. Any individual or organization (outside of Safe Haven Baby Boxes Inc.) that organizes and hosts an event, promotion, sale, or donation drive on behalf of Safe Haven Baby Boxes Inc. is defined as a “third-party fundraiser.”

Prior to Collection of Donations:

1.The third-party fundraiser is not allowed to solicit for donations without acknowledgement from Safe Haven Baby Boxes AND local leaders, such as the mayor, fire chief, council member, and/or hospital administrator/staff. The third-party fundraiser should notify Safe Haven Baby Boxes via email or mail with intent to solicit donations in advance of the proposed start date.

2.The third-party fundraiser will not personally collect any donations. All donations should be sent directly to SHBB. Upon acknowledgement from a SHBB representative of the intent to campaign for donations, the third-party fundraiser will be provided a link for online donations specific to the fundraiser's campaign.

3.The third-party fundraiser is responsible for providing donation instructions to solicited donors.

4.The third-party fundraiser is responsible for expenses associated with printing and promotion of the donation solicitation.

5. The third-party fundraiser is not a representative of Safe Haven Baby Boxes and should not claim to be.
6. Safe Haven Baby Boxes retains the right to decline any solicitation activity if it conflicts with its mission or other fundraising efforts.
7. The third-party event organizers should not provide tax advice to third-party event contributors. Organizers should refer individuals to tax or legal counsel for information.
8. The third-party fundraiser may not keep any portion of a donation as profit or compensation for organizing the campaign.
9. The third-party fundraiser or anyone associated with the event cannot set up a temporary bank account in his/her name or Safe Haven Baby Boxes name for the collection of donations.
10. Safe Haven Baby Boxes, Inc. may only issue tax receipts for checks made payable to “Safe Haven Baby Boxes” or donations paid online at www.shbb.org or designated link for campaign.
11. The third-party fundraiser must submit all publicity and promotional material containing Safe Haven Baby Boxes name and/or logo to Safe Haven Baby Boxes Fundraising Department for review and approval prior to publication and distribution of these materials. Please allow Safe Haven Baby Boxes staff ten (10) business days to review these materials. PLEASE NOTE: Third-party donation campaigns that are approved by Safe Haven Baby Boxes may be advertised on Safe Haven Baby Boxes website and/or social media sites.

12. The third-party fundraiser cannot advertise locations of future baby box installations (i.e. address of fire station or hospital).

13. Promotional materials that use Safe Haven Baby Boxes name should incorporate the following statement: "Proceeds to benefit Safe Haven Baby Boxes Inc."

14. The third-party fundraiser agrees not to use Safe Haven Baby Boxes' tax exemption in any manner or as part of the donation campaign, nor will the third-party represent any rights or privileges of tax exemption to the public, nor will the third-party state that any portion of the purchase price for any goods or services at the event is tax deductible for charitable purposes.

15. Prior to starting a fundraising campaign, please send SHBB@SafeHavenBabyBoxes.com your fundraising campaign plan for approval.



Any additional funds raised will remain in your community promoting your local Safe Haven Baby Box. A bill board campaign will raise awareness for safe surrender and include our National Crisis Hotline number.

Please keep in mind that all donations that are solicited for a Safe Haven Baby Box must be sent to SHBB to be used for your city's baby box and/or marketing and education. If your fundraising efforts exceed the amount needed, per the IRS guidelines, this money has to be sent to SHBB. Sending money raised for a Safe Haven Baby Box to another entity is a direct violation of IRS guidelines.

Safe Haven Baby Boxes name and logo are a registered trademark. Any use of these would need SHBB approval. For questions or more information on third-party donation solicitation, please contact a Safe Haven Baby Boxes representative at 1-888-742-2133 or shbb@safehavenbabyboxes.com. Thank you very much for your interest in supporting Safe Haven Baby Boxes programs and services!

By signing below, you understand SHBB fundraising policy and will ensure that the funds are handled according to this policy.

Signed _____ Date _____

Donation for a Safe Haven Baby Box located in

Amount needed: _____

Mail check to:
SHBB
PO Box 185
Woodburn, IN 46797

Once a check is received you will receive a letter from SHBB for you to use for tax purposes. SHBB is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization by the IRS so all donations are tax-deductible. Thank you for your support!

Goals of Safe Haven Baby Boxes

- Raise awareness of the Safe Haven law through the installation of Baby Boxes.
- Provide counseling to any parent in crisis.
- Use of billboards, social media, speaking engagements, and fundraisers to bring awareness to Safe Haven Laws.
- Provide a safe and anonymous option for surrendering an infant.
- Work with legislators in every state to pass a law allowing the installation of Baby Boxes.
- Install Baby Boxes in every state in the United States.

Help Us Reach Our Goals

- Assist or host a Safe Haven Baby Boxes fundraiser
- Invite Monica to speak at your church, or community event
- Attend a Baby Box Blessing
- Follow and share our social media platforms

Please contact us if you have any questions or need more information.

Email: shbb@safehavenbabyboxes.com

Phone: (888)742-2133

Website: www.shbb.org



SERVICES, FEES, AND EXPENSES SCHEDULE
FULL TIME FIRE STATIONS

Initial Fee: \$11,000

1. "Pre-installation" Services:
 - a. Examination of location
 - b. Administrative/Legal resources
 - c. Consultation on programs
 - d. Assistance with raising funds to support the cost of the box (optional)
2. Installation Services:
 - a. Inspection of installation
 - b. Training to all emergency personnel
3. Post Installation Services:
 - a. Marketing of the box
 - b. 24/7 hotline available to the community
 - c. Advertising of the box
 - d. Efforts to support raising awareness on a local, state, and national level supporting the box in each community

Annual Fee: \$300

1. Annual Fee Services
 - a. Recertification of the box by a licensed contractor
 - b. Maintenance of box from expected use
 - c. Unlimited repairs and parts replacement as a result of a malfunction and not as a result of negligence or vandalism.

OTHER FEES NOT INCLUDED IN INITIAL FEE: (Estimated at \$5,000-\$7,500)

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

1. Delivery: \$500.00 if you would like to have the box delivered. You can pick up at our Fort Wayne IN manufacturing facility to waive the delivery charge. (Must be pre-scheduled)
2. Installation: Labor and materials~\$2,000-\$3,500 (Location may be able to get this donated)
3. Electrical and Alarm: hook up to internal alarm system (Internal alarm must go to 911 dispatch for use with the baby box)~\$1,200
4. Annual Alarm Service: Annual fee for monitoring~\$300 annually paid by location to Alarm Company
5. Transportation: Cost based on location and transportation from Indiana.
6. Permits or other requirements prior to construction. (varies)



Thank you for your interest in Safe Haven Baby Boxes and our programs. Each program with a brief description is listed below. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any further questions or need additional information.

Safe Haven Baby Boxes Program

The most effective method for raising awareness of the Safe Haven Law is having an active Safe Haven Baby Box in a community. It provides a focal point to address the lack of education and knowledge about the Safe Haven Law, and creates a natural entry for first responders and the community to play a role in proactively saving the lives of children through education and outreach. This benefit is not limited and extends well beyond the local community. Surrounding communities benefit due to the nature of outreach in the media and education efforts. This is intentional and one Baby Box has the potential to help Mothers-In-Crisis in surrounding communities.

Safe Haven Baby Boxes National Crisis Hotline

Safe Haven Baby Boxes offers a National Crisis Hotline, (866)99-BABY-1 and is available 24/7/365. This service provides for a person to speak to a crisis counselor with the goal of providing access to resources that allow the parent to stabilize their situation and make the best decision for themselves and their infant.

Billboards and Other Advertisement Campaigns

One of the most effective methods for raising awareness of the Safe Haven Law and of Safe Haven Baby Boxes' services is through our billboard and other advertising campaigns. Data collected from surrenders in areas show that more calls are made to the National Crisis Hotline and safe surrenders take place.

Other advertising methods of successfully raising awareness include the use of social media, local news sources, and events held within communities that have or are considering a Baby Box.

Training Programs for Emergency Medical Personnel

Safe Haven Baby Boxes offers training to all emergency medical personnel, even if there is not a Safe Haven Baby Box located in a community or nearby. It is essential that first responders understand the Safe Haven Law and how to handle a safe surrender.

Education in Schools

Every individual needs to know about his or her rights under the state Safe Haven Law. Educating at the high school and college level ensures that not only does the Safe Haven Law save the lives of infants, but also prevents the parent from prosecution. Safe Haven Baby Boxes provides training and resources to teachers and volunteers who wish to incorporate information into the curriculum. Safe Haven Baby Boxes Representatives are also available for in person education sessions as well.

Counseling Support

Safe Haven Baby Boxes provides counseling support to parents who may be considering options to surrender, to parent, or to arrange an adoption of their infant. Our counseling staff ensure that every parent understands the resources available and their rights under the Safe Haven Law.

Legal Support for Parents

Legal support from Safe Haven Baby Boxes is available to any parent who has legally exercised his/her rights under the state Safe Haven Law, but yet experiencing possible prosecution. In many cases, state agencies are pursuing criminal charges as a result of lack of knowledge of the Safe Haven Laws. The Safe Haven Baby Boxes organization wants to ensure that the law is understood by all and is ready to assist a parent who may face this challenge.

Financial Support for Parents in Need

The SHBB organization wants parents to make the best decisions for the safety of their children. We understand that there may be specific needs when making the decision to parent. Our organization has helped parents in need with specific items, requested donations from our supporters, and reached out to local resources to ensure they receive the support needed.

Adoption Assistance

Women who are considering adoption for their baby need counseling and support to make this difficult decision prior to giving birth. To date, SHBB has assisted with 7 adoptions, with most being open adoptions. Our organization connects the birth parent with an agency that allows her to choose whether or not she wishes to have an open adoption and having the ability to choose a forever family for her child.



FAQ's

1. Have the Safe Haven Baby Boxes been tested?

The Safe Haven Baby Box is tested. At every stage of design, development and deployment, the Box undergoes stringent testing. While there are no standards that exist, the Safe Haven Baby Box organization is developing standards by adopting the most stringent requirements.

The ultimate test came on November 7, 2017 at the CoolSpring Fire Department. A courageous mother anonymously surrendered Baby Hope in the Safe Haven Baby Box located in Michigan City, IN. After the notification system notified the first responders flawlessly, she was safely received and evaluated under the Safe Haven Baby Box Protocol for Surrender and the laws of Indiana. It is noted the Box performed within the design parameters and the surrender is considered legal under the Indiana Safe Haven law.

2. Why are the Safe Haven Boxes not regulated by the FDA or the CSPC?

It has been determined by the FDA that the Safe Haven Baby Box, like the baby drawers in Arizona, is not a medical device and does not require FDA approval. The baby box and the baby drawer are not available for sale to the public and do not require CSPC regulation.

3. Are the Safe Haven Baby Boxes and baby drawers UL listed and approved?

UL approval is not legally required and there is no legislation mandating certification by UL or any other agency, public or private in the US. SHBB partners with a third party for performance testing to ensure the baby boxes function properly.

4. Do baby boxes exist that are not from the Safe Haven Baby Boxes organization?

Yes. In fact, "baby hatches" existed in one form or another for centuries and was quite common in medieval times. Modern versions appear in other countries, including Germany, Switzerland, Pakistan, and Malaysia.

Arizona also has baby drawers and are available at designated hospitals. (For more information, please see the back of this page.)

5. Is Safe Haven Baby Boxes the only organization that offers complete anonymity?

For individuals contacting our National Safe Haven Crisis Hotline, contact is confidential and anonymous, should the caller wish. For individuals using our Safe Haven Baby Boxes, there are no cameras, so the individual remains anonymous.

The Hotline and counselors are supervised by a Clinical Staff Psychologist with over 25 years of crisis pregnancy hotline experience. We will not ask for a name. We do ask for location so we can provide information on the laws that apply and resources that may be available. Our goal is to provide the mothers-in-crisis with the resources that allow themselves to stabilize their situation and have time to make a decision that is in the best interest of themselves and their child.

While other organizations may, we can only confirm Safe Haven Baby Boxes and our National Safe Haven Crisis Hotline is the only organization that offers complete anonymity.

Safe Haven Baby Boxes is thankful for all efforts to support the safe haven laws and for the availability of the Safe Baby Haven baby drawers at selected Banner Hospital locations in Arizona. The baby drawers have been around for a number of years and prove to be an additional option for mothers-in-crisis. Safe Haven Baby Boxes, Inc. has taken extra steps with the Baby Box to ensure quality and safety when surrendering an infant. The diagram below includes pertinent information about both devices based on their protocols.

	Safe Haven Baby Boxes	Arizona Baby Drawers
Availability		
Offered for Use in Hospitals AND Fire Stations	✓	✗
Available in Multiple States	✓	✗
Support Offered		
Established Program for Increased Awareness and Education	✓	✓
Dedicated National Hotline Available 24/7/365	✓	✗
Resources Offered to Support Mothers-in-Crisis	✓	✓
Safety		
Multiple Alarm System to Ensure No-Fail	✓	✗
Medical Bassinet Included for Increased Safety	✓	✗
Alarm System Tested	WEEKLY	MONTHLY
Visual Checks	DAILY	DAILY
FDA Inspected and Confirmed not a Medical Device	✓	✗
Patented	✓	✗
3rd Party Performance Tested	✓	✗
Outside of Device Locks for Infant Safety	✓	✗

Baby abandoned in trash receptacle in Lawrence

Police: Infant is in serious and stable condition

Lawrence police said the baby was transported to a Kansas City hospital in serious but stable condition. Read more at <http://m.kshb.com/29xreL5>





By: [Melissa Greenstein](#)

Posted at 11:33 AM, Jul 07, 2016

and last updated 7:19 PM, Jul 07, 2016

Lawrence police say a baby girl is in serious but stable condition after the child was found abandoned in a trash receptacle early Thursday morning.

Lawrence police said around 2:28 a.m., officers received a call indicating a baby had been abandoned inside a trash receptacle at an apartment complex in the 2500 block of West Sixth Street, and the 9-month-old girl was being taken to a local hospital for treatment.

Cindy Quick said she found the baby.

"I said, 'Oh my God, it's a baby.' And a couple friends were getting in their car to leave. They came running over. And I handed the baby to them out of the trash can and they ran her to the hospital," Quick said.

Quick said she had to pull four of five trash bags off the baby.

"She had bite marks, from bugs or spiders ... And I guess when they took her to the hospital her nose just started gushing, bleeding," Quick said.

Lawrence police said officers responded to the apartment complex and hospital. Medical personnel at the hospital determined the baby's injuries were possibly life-threatening. Lawrence police said the 9-month-old was transported by ground ambulance to a Kansas City hospital in serious but stable condition.

Lawrence police detectives have contacted the family and are actively investigating the incident.

Update: RCPD locates mother of abandoned infant; investigation ongoing

[0](#)
BY [BRANDON PEOPLES](#) ON [SEPTEMBER 19, 2019](#) [LOCAL NEWS, MANHATTAN](#)

Riley County Police say the mother of an infant found abandoned in Manhattan Wednesday evening has been found.

Police received a call from Ascencion Via Christi just after 7 p.m. after an infant was brought in after reportedly being found in the 2000 block of North Manhattan Ave. The baby was transported to Stormont Vail Hospital in Topeka as a precaution and is said to be healthy. The mother is said to be in good health as well. Police have not disclosed her identity.

Further investigation has led police to believe the intent was to follow the safe haven law. The investigation is ongoing. No additional information is being released in an effort to not discourage other mothers from choosing to take advantage of the law for the sake of their child.

The Newborn Infant Protection Act allows for parents or other persons having lawful custody of an infant who is 60 days old or younger and who has not suffered bodily harm to surrender physical custody of the infant to any employee on duty at a police station, sheriff's office, law enforcement center, fire station, city or county health department or medical care facility.

Original story

Riley County Police are investigating after an infant was found alive Wednesday evening in the 2000 block of North Manhattan Ave.

Police confirmed they located the abandoned child just after 7 p.m. The baby has been transported to Stormont Vail in Topeka as a precaution. A witness in the nearby Flint Hills Place apartment complex tells KMAN police found the baby wrapped in a blanket. No further details have been released.

Police say this is an ongoing investigation and that additional information will be released as it becomes available.