

Voluntary Medical History

About the Baby

Baby's first name: _____
(if given)

Boy Girl

Date & time of birth: _____

Place of birth: _____
(Town) (State)

Was the baby premature? Yes No

Does the baby have any special needs?

Yes No

(specify) _____

About the Parent

While you were pregnant did you?

Smoke cigarettes Drink alcohol
 Take drugs / prescription medications

(specify) _____

Check all that are known. **Mother** **Father**

Asthma

Bipolar Disorder

Depression

Diabetes

Drug or Alcohol Abuse

Epilepsy or seizures

Headaches or migraines

Heart disease

Hepatitis

High blood pressure

Schizophrenia

Other _____

Other _____

Date baby was received: _____

Safe Haven: _____

Can I provide more information about myself later?

Yes. Absolutely! As your life changes over the next 10, 20, and more years, you may decide that you want your identifying information (e.g. your full name, date of birth, and last known address) to be available to your child should he or she wish to contact you.

However, if you don't want to make your identity known, you may still provide a detailed medical history for your child's record. It is entirely up to you. To find out more, call the Vermont Adoption Registry at (802) 241-2122.

What if I am not sure what to do and I want help?


Please call us at 1-800-649-4357 during normal business hours.

We can answer your questions about the Safe Haven Law. We can also refer you to a public health nurse in your area who can:

- Help you find pre-natal care and transportation to pre-natal appointments.
- Give you advice about your options.
- Help you find financial assistance and other support if you choose to keep your baby.
- Refer you to an adoption agency who can help you make an adoption plan for your baby.

You can also visit our website at babysafehaven.vermont.gov.

**In an emergency,
please call 911.**



**Please don't
abandon your baby.**

THERE IS A BETTER WAY.

*Safe Havens for
Babies in Vermont*

 **VERMONT**
AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES

If you are thinking about abandoning your baby in an unsafe place, please know that there is a better way.

Vermont's Baby Safe Haven Law offers you safe places you can give up your baby—anonymously and legally.

Who can bring a baby to a Safe Haven?

You (or a person acting on your behalf) can bring your baby, up to 30 days old, to any Safe Haven in Vermont.

You can do so without fear of being arrested or charged—as long as your baby has not been abused or neglected.

What are Safe Havens in Vermont?

A Safe Haven is any:

- Fire or police station;
- Health care facility;
- Place of worship;
- Adoption agency licensed in Vermont; or
- Place an emergency responder, contacted through 911, agrees to meet you to receive your baby.

Who do I leave my baby with?

To be covered by the law, you must *hand* the baby to a volunteer or employee of a Safe Haven.

YOU CANNOT LEAVE THE BABY ALONE.

Do I have to call first?

No. You can walk in anytime. The only exception is when you call 911 to arrange to meet an emergency responder who will receive your baby.

What will happen to me?

Depending on where you decide to bring your baby, you may be offered medical help, counseling, or other support. You may accept or decline; it's up to you. Once you have safely turned over your baby, you are free to leave.

What will happen to my baby?

People at the Safe Haven will receive your baby, make sure he/she gets any needed medical care, and contact the Department for Children and Families (DCF).

DCF will place the baby in a pre-adoptive home, start the legal procedures required to terminate parental rights, and then proceed with the baby's adoption.

What if I change my mind?

If you decide that you want to care for your baby, call 1-800-649-4357. You will be referred to a social worker with the Department for Children and Families who will explain your options and assist you through the process.

You must act quickly. Once a judge terminates your rights as a parent it will be too late.

Will I have to give any information to the person receiving my baby?

No, none is required. However, providing basic health information will help us provide the best possible care for your baby.

Is there a form I can use to provide my baby's medical history?

Yes. A *voluntary* medical form is on the back of this panel. The questions on the form may be answered anonymously; you do not need to give your name.

If you choose to complete it, we encourage you to leave the form with the person receiving your baby. Or, you can mail it in later to the address below.

The Vermont Adoption Registry
103 So. Main Street, Osgood 3
Waterbury, VT 05671-2401



Safe Havens for Babies