

LOUISIANA SAFE HAVEN

A safe, legal option for a parent in crisis

A newborn can be safely surrendered without abandonment or harm.



FOR AN INFANT UP TO 60 DAYS OLD

HOW IT WORKS

- 1 Go to a designated Safe Haven**
Hospital, manned fire or police station, public health unit, or Federally Qualified Health Center during business hours, or an authorized Safe Haven Baby Box.
- 2 Choose one safe surrender method**
Hand the baby directly to an employee and say you want to use Safe Haven. Or, place the baby inside an authorized Safe Haven Baby Box and follow the posted instructions. Never leave the baby unattended anywhere else.
- 3 The baby receives care**
The baby is taken for a health assessment. DCFS then arranges safe care and begins the legal process toward a permanent adoptive family.

THE PARENT

May remain anonymous and is protected under the Safe Haven Law when the baby has no signs of abuse or neglect.

A parent may seek to reclaim parental rights within 30 days by contacting the local DCFS office.

CAN'T GET TO A SITE?

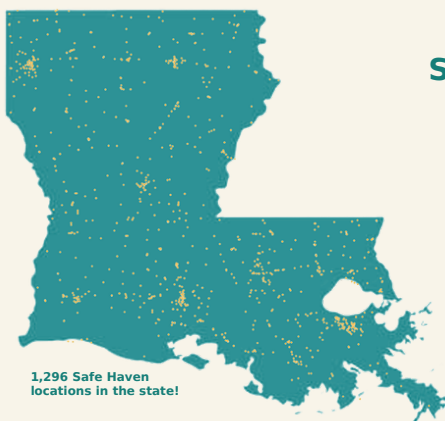
CALL 911

An emergency responder can meet you where you are.

SAFE HAVEN BABY BOXES IN LOUISIANA

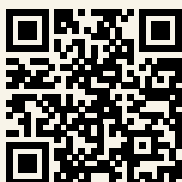
Covington Fire Department
Covington, Louisiana

St. Tammany Fire Station
322 Bouscaren Street, Slidell, LA



National Safe Haven Crisis Hotline

NEED IMMEDIATE HELP?
1-888-510-BABY
(2229)



Find a Safe Haven site

Search by parish, city, or ZIP code at Louisiana DCFS.



Learn more

Safe Haven guidance and Louisiana Baby Box information.

SAFE. LEGAL. CONFIDENTIAL.

General educational information, current August 2026. For official guidance, contact DCFS or the crisis hotline.

dcfs.louisiana.gov/safe-haven