

Daniel's Law



Daniel's Law is named for an infant boy who survived after being buried in a landfill soon after his birth. Nurses named him Daniel as he recovered at a hospital. **Daniel's Law** was enacted to prevent these kinds of dangerous and often fatal abandonments.

Under the law, instead of abandoning a baby up to 60 days old in dangerous circumstances, a person can surrender the unharmed newborn baby at a designated location. The individual can give the child a chance at a happy, healthy life with a loving family.

Those in crisis have a safe way to give their babies a loving family under **Daniel's Law**.



South Carolina Crisis Pregnancy Centers

Need to talk?

Aiken Pregnancy Care Center, Inc.
Aiken, SC **803-649-9890**

Anderson Pregnancy Center
Anderson, SC **864-231-0077**

Radiance Women's Center
Beaufort, SC **843-525-0300**

Midlands Women's Center
Camden, SC **803-432-7000**

Birthright Of Charleston
Charleston, SC **843-556-4403**

DAZZ Pregnancy
and Sexual Health Center
Charleston, SC **843-225-3010**

LowCountry Pregnancy Center
Charleston, SC **843-553-3505**

Birthright of Clemson
Clemson, SC **864-654-3377**

Birthright of Columbia
Columbia, SC
803-765-0165 ~ 800-550-4900

Daybreak Life Care Center
Columbia, SC **803-771-6634**

Carolina Family Planning Centers
Dillon, SC **843-616-6559**

Hope Women's Center
Easley, SC **864-855-8500**

A CHOICE 2 M8K
Florence, SC **843-669-4673** (HOPE)
800-395-HELP (4357)

Options Medical Clinic
Gaffney, SC **864-489-9939**
24/7 Helpline **800-712-HELP** (4357)

Piedmont Women's Center
Greenville, SC
Grove Rd **864-233-3823**
Brushy Creek **864-244-1434**

Piedmont Women's Center
Greer, SC **864-848-1407**

Pregnancy Center
& Clinic Of The Low Country
Hilton Head Island, SC
843-689-2222

Pregnancy Care Center
Lancaster, SC **803-286-5900**

Birthright Crisis Pregnancy
Greenville, SC **864-281-7677**

Foothills Crisis
Pregnancy Center
Seneca, SC **864-882-8796**

Sumter Pregnancy Center
Sumter, SC **803-773-8858**
800-671-0681 24hr HotLine

The Advocacy Center
Sumter, SC **803-774-5600**

Union County Pregnancy Center
Union, SC **864-427-0447**

DSS

SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT of SOCIAL SERVICES

COMPETENCE • COURAGE • COMPASSION

DSS Brochure 2493 (OCT 18) Edition of SEPT 18 is obsolete.

South Carolina's Safe Haven
for Abandoned Babies Act

Daniel's Law



*Don't
abandon
your baby.*

DSS

SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT of SOCIAL SERVICES

COMPETENCE • COURAGE • COMPASSION

You have options.



A decision to leave an infant with a “Safe Haven” is a very personal decision. But with the correct information, one may feel some comfort in making a decision that is believed to be in the child’s best interests.

There are many “Safe Havens” in South Carolina.

- All hospitals
- Police stations
- Fire stations
- Any place of worship (when someone is there)

www.dss.sc.gov

Daniel's Law is intended to save babies. It is not intended to hurt or punish anyone. It provides a safe option.

Daniel’s Law contains several key components:

1. The law applies to infants up to **60 days old**.
2. If the baby has been harmed in some way, the immunity from prosecution may not apply.
3. A person who abandons a newborn **cannot be prosecuted** for abandonment if he or she takes the unharmed baby to staff or an employee of a Safe Haven. Safe Havens are defined as a hospital or hospital outpatient facility, law enforcement agencies, fire stations, emergency medical services (EMS) stations, or a house of worship during the time the facility is staffed. The receiving “Safe Haven” will fill out a short form.
4. DSS will have legal custody of the child and will place the child in a foster home.
5. DSS will immediately pursue family court action to free the

child for adoption.

6. The hospital will provide medical care and contact DSS.
7. The person leaving the child will be asked to provide medical information about the baby’s parents and, if possible, the name of the baby’s parents. This will help the medical personnel treat the baby for any health problems.
8. The person leaving the child does not have to reveal his or her identity.
9. If you are pregnant and confused or frightened about what to do with your baby, or if you know someone who is pregnant and in crisis – ***there are people who can help*** – Please see the list on the back of this brochure for the organization nearest you.

