**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.

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**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
- Options Medical Clinic  
  Gaffney, SC 864-489-9939
- Piedmont Women’s Center  
  Greenville, SC 864-233-3823
- 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
- The Advocacy Center  
  Sumter, SC 803-774-5600
- Union County Pregnancy Center  
  Union, SC 864-427-0447

**South Carolina’s Safe Haven for Abandoned Babies Act**

Don't abandon your baby.
You have options.

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.

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

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