Local DSS Offices to leave your baby

Aberdeen: 605-626-2388
3401 10th Avenue SE, 57401-8000

Brookings: 605-688-4330
1310 Main Ave. S., Suite 101, 57006-3893

Chamberlain: 605-734-4500
320 Sorenson Drive, 57325-1022

Deadwood: 605-578-2402
20 Cliff St., PO Box 607, 57732-0607

Eagle Butte: 605-964-4484
1302 N. Willow, PO Box 530, 57625-0530

Hot Springs: 605-745-5100
2500 Minnekahta Ave., Building 1, PO Box 729, 57747-0729

Huron: 605-353-7100
110 3rd St. SW, Suite 200, 57350-2450

Lake Andes: 605-487-7607
3rd & Lake, PO Box 190, 57356-0190

Martin: 605-685-6521
404 3rd Ave., PO Box 250, 57551-0250

Mission: 605-856-4489
671 N. Marge Lane, PO Box 818, 57555-0818

Mitchell: 605-995-8000
116 E. 11th Ave., 57301-1432

Mobridge: 605-845-2922
920 6th St. W., PO Box 160, 57601-0160

Pierre: 605-773-3521
912 E. Sioux, 57501-3490

Rapid City: 605-394-2525
510 N. Cambell, PO Box 2440, 57709-2440

Sioux Falls: 605-367-5444
811 E. 10th St., Department 6, 57103-1650

Sturgis: 605-347-2588
2200 W. Main St., 57785-1338

Vermillion: 605-677-6800
114 Market St., Suite 102, 57069-0516

Watertown: 605-882-5050
2001 9th Ave. SW, Suite 300, PO Box 670, 57201-0670

Winner: 605-842-0400
649 W. 2nd St., PO Box 31, 57580-0031

Yankton: 605-668-3030
3113 Spruce St., Suite 200, 57078-5320

Department of Social Services
Division of Child Protection Services
Phone: 605-773-3227
Email: CPS@state.sd.us
Website: www.dss.sd.gov

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Safe Havens in South Dakota

Secure places to leave your baby, no questions asked.

DSS
Strong Families - South Dakota's Foundation and Our Future

Safe Places to Leave your Baby

Parenting is an exciting and enjoyable time for some and for others it can bring a great deal of stress and fear. If for any reason you feel you cannot parent your child, there are safe places where you can leave your baby. These safe places will take your baby with open arms, no questions asked, and will also make sure your baby receives the care and protection he or she deserves.

State law in South Dakota allows you to voluntarily leave your baby with a hospital or child placement agency if your child is less than 60 days old. This is also known as the *Baby Moses Law*. Leaving your baby with one of these places is NOT a crime as long as your child has not been harmed.

You can leave your baby with:

- ✔ Hospitals or clinics
- ✔ Law enforcement officers
- ✔ Licensed child placement agencies
- ✔ Department of Social Services' offices
- ✔ Emergency medical technicians
- ✔ Firefighters

You may be asked for medical information related to your baby's medical history. However, you will NOT be required to provide any information, including your name or the other parent's name.

Your Parental Rights will be Terminated

If you do not *express your intent to return* for your baby, your parental rights to your child will be terminated after 14 days. Your baby then is taken in to care by the Department of Social Services' Division of Child Protection Services or the licensed child placement agency.

The place where you leave your baby must notify the Department of Social Services about having your child. The Department **cannot** attempt to identify, contact or investigate you unless it appears your child has been harmed. The Department or the child placement agency will take custody and care for your baby.

Your baby's other parent has the right to file for custody after you have given the baby up. To gain custody, the other parent has 30 days to prove he or she is the parent of your baby and that he or she did not consent to giving up the child's custody.

If the other parent does not come forward and 60 days have passed, a circuit court hearing is held to terminate the parental rights. *This means you no longer have any rights to your baby.*

*For more information on this law, see SDCL 25-5A-27 through 25-5A-35.

*If applicable, the Indian Child Welfare Act must be followed.

Safe Places to Consider

All About U Adoptions:
Phone: 949-2507
229 E. 2nd Ave., Suite 2, Milbank, SD 57252

Bethany Christian Services:
Phone: 336-6999
400 S. Sycamore Ave., Suite 105-2
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-4875

Bethany Christian Services, Western SD:
Phone: 343-7196
2525 W. Main St. #309
Rapid City, SD 57702-2443

Catholic Family Services:
Phone: 988-3775 or 1-800-700-7867
523 NW Duluth, Sioux Falls, SD 57104-2714

Catholic Social Services:
Phone: 348-6086
918 5th St., Rapid City, SD 57701-3798

Lutheran Social Services:
Phone: 221-2346 or 1-888-201-5061
621 E. Presentation St.
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Lutheran Social Services:
Phone: 348-0477 or 1-800-260-1439
2920 Sheridan Lake Road
Rapid City, SD 57702-5350

New Horizons Adoption Agency, Inc.:
Phone: 332-0310
2500 W. 49th St., Suite 213
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-3619