



## Anonymous Voluntary Abandonment Parent Information

### WHAT IS SAFE SURRENDER?

If you are about to have a baby and you feel you are unable to care for your newborn, Tennessee will allow you to leave your infant who is seventy-two (72) hours or three (3) days old or younger at any hospital, birthing center, community health clinic or an out-patient walk-in clinic without any questions asked concerning your voluntary safe surrender.

This is a permanent arrangement and you will not be charged with abandoning your newborn if left by you at one of the above places.

### CAN I CHANGE MY MIND?

You have thirty (30) days to let the Juvenile, Circuit or Chancery Court know that you have changed your mind.

### IS THERE SOMEONE I CAN TALK TO ABOUT MY OPTIONS?

You may call this toll free help line at **1- 866-699-7233** and someone will answer your questions and discuss your options with you. All calls are confidential. If you would like, you may also call the **Department of Children's Services** toll free at **1- 877-542-2873** or **1- 877-237-0004**.

**Tennessee's Safe Haven Law provides a safe and legal alternative to young girls and women to anonymously surrender their three (3) day-old baby without fear of prosecution.**

