

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

August 17, 2012

M E M O R A N D U M

What's Inside:
Revised Safe
Place for
Newborns
Brochures.

TO: REGIONAL EXECUTIVE STAFF, CIRCUIT MANAGERS, AND
CHILDREN'S DIVISION STAFF

FROM: CANDACE A. SHIVELY, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: REVISED SAFE PLACE FOR NEWBORNS BROCHURES

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform staff of revisions to the *Safe Place for Newborns Brochures*. These revisions have been made in accordance with [The Safe Place for Newborns Law 2005 \(SECTION 210.950, RSMo.\)](#). The law allows a parent to permanently give up a child who is less than one year old, as long as the child is safely given to a firefighter, an EMT (emergency medical technician), law enforcement officer or hospital staff.

Staff are encouraged to share these brochures with parents and professionals on behalf of the Department of Social Services (DSS). The decision to give up a baby is a serious decision for both the baby and the parents of the child. The Department of Social Services cannot provide legal advice and encourages anyone who may have questions about giving up their baby under this law to speak with an attorney.

The revised *Safe Place for Newborns Brochures* for parents and professionals will be distributed to Children's Division offices at the circuit level. Additional brochures are also available for order from the [Department of Social Services Warehouse E-Store](#). Staff should discontinue the use of the previous version of *Safe Place for Newborns Brochures* and destroy all outdated forms in stock.

NECESSARY ACTION

1. Review this memorandum with all Children's Division staff.
2. Review revised Child Welfare Manual chapters as indicated below.
3. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to:

PDS CONTACT Crystal Wilson 573-522-9306 Crystal.L.Wilson@dss.mo.gov	PROGRAM MANAGER Amy Martin 573-751-3171 Amy.L.Martin@dss.mo.gov
CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS Section 2 Chapter 1 Subsection 2.4 Miscellaneous Referrals	
FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS N/A	
REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES N/A	
RELATED STATUTE The Safe Place for Newborns Law 2005 (SECTION 210.950, RSMo.) .	
ADMINISTRATIVE RULE N/A	
COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION (COA) STANDARDS N/A	
CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEW (CFSR) N/A	
PROTECTIVE FACTORS N/A Parental Resilience Social Connections Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development Concrete Support in Times of Need Social and Emotional Competence of Children	
FACES REQUIREMENTS N/A	