

Have you recently given birth?

Do you feel you cannot keep your newborn baby?

Do you feel the only option left to you is to leave the baby somewhere?

Before you abandon your baby, we want you to know there is another option – Angel's Cradle.

What is Angel's Cradle?

If you feel that you cannot care for your newborn baby, Angel's Cradle is a safe place to give up your newborn baby without anyone knowing who you are.

You and your baby's health and safety are important to us. We want you to make the right choice both for you and for your newborn baby.

When you leave your newborn in Angel's Cradle, you are giving up your baby. It should be your last choice.



Angel's
at St. Paul's
Hospital *Cradle*

Where is Angel's Cradle?

Angel's Cradle is located in downtown Vancouver at St. Paul's Hospital. The cradle is just outside the entrance to the hospital Emergency Department. The "Angel's Cradle" sign can be seen from Burrard Street.

We made it so you do not have to come into the hospital to leave your newborn baby. This is so you can leave your baby without anyone knowing who you are.

Will anyone stop me from leaving my newborn baby in Angel's Cradle?

Angel's Cradle is a safe place for you to give up your newborn baby. No hospital staff or security will stop you. If you then need to come into the Emergency Department for medical care after the birth, we will not connect you with your newborn baby. We will care for you separately, as if the newborn baby is not yours.

Will the police arrest me?

Not if you leave your baby in the Angel's Cradle. The police agree to treat Angel's Cradle as a 'safe haven.' This means it is a safe place for you to give up your newborn if you choose to, without anyone knowing who you are.

What happens to my newborn baby when it is left in Angel's Cradle?

Thirty seconds after the newborn has been placed in the cradle, a sensor alerts Emergency staff that there is a baby in the cradle. We give the baby any medical care it may need, then we admit the baby to the hospital.

A hospital social worker contacts the Ministry of Children and Family Development. The baby is then in government care, where someone from the Ministry acts as the baby's guardian and will make a permanent plan for your baby.

Is there anything I can do to help my baby when I leave it in Angel's Cradle?

It would help our doctors and nurses if you could leave any medical information that might help us look after the baby. **Leave any information about the baby's medical health, as well as the health and medical history of both parents.** For example, we need to know if the newborn baby could have HIV, if either of the parents used drugs or alcohol, and other health concerns. The more information you provide about your baby's history, the better care your baby can receive.*



** Please know that we will not use any of this information to try to find you.*

I am not sure I want to leave my baby in Angel's Cradle. Where can I go for help?

Before you decide to leave your newborn baby in Angel's Cradle, take time to think about this choice. You need to know that you can get help from other health and support services. For example, you can make an adoption plan with a social worker from the Ministry of Children and Family Development. Working with a social worker to plan for your baby gives your baby the best chance of finding the right home. You can have as much or as little involvement as you want with adoption planning. We want what is best for your newborn baby, so if these options are not possible, consider the Angel's Cradle.

If you are not sure you want to give up your newborn baby, here are some people to talk with about options that might help you.

- Talk to your family doctor.
- Call or drop into one of the Crisis Pregnancy Centres in Greater Vancouver. Talk to one of their counselors.
- Talk to one of the social workers in the hospital.
- Talk to someone from the Ministry of Children and Family Development.

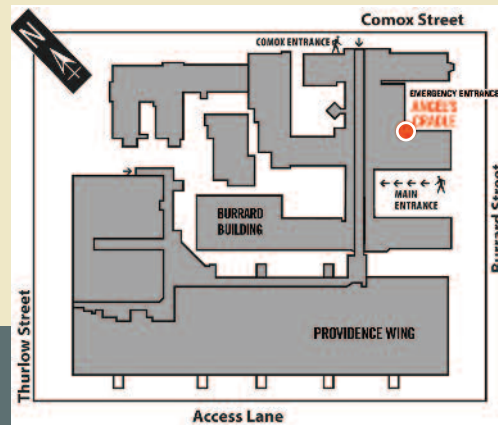


Recently given birth? Need help?

Call any of these places for help.

- Ministry of Children and Family Development: 604.660.5437 or 310.1234 (no area code)
- Birthright: 604.687.7223
- Crisis Intervention: 604.872.3311 or 1.888.661.3311
- Vancouver Aboriginal Child and Family Services Society: 778.331.4500

St. Paul's Hospital



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