





PRESS RELEASE

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Deerfield Township Celebrates the 14th Baby Box in Ohio

Deerfield Township, OH – The Deerfield Township Board of Trustees and Deerfield Township Fire Rescue Department will dedicate a state-of-the-art baby box at Fire Rescue Station 57 (3435 US Route 22) on March 19, 2025, at 12:00 pm EST. This important and innovative safety resource provides a safe and anonymous alternative for individuals who make the difficult decision to surrender an infant.

The baby box offers a secure and compassionate option for parents in crisis and guarantees that every infant has a safe and loving future. Designed with innovative safety features and installed on an exterior wall of the fire station, this box ensures the safe surrender of infants. The exterior door locks automatically when a newborn is placed inside, and an interior door allows medical personnel to promptly and securely retrieve the baby, ensuring immediate care and protection.

"The baby box at Station 57 will be a vital resource for our community, providing a lifeline for mothers in crisis and a safe beginning for their newborns. The Deerfield Township Board of Trustees and Deerfield Township Fire Rescue Department partnered with Safe Haven Baby Boxes to help parents in crisis and guarantee that every child has a bright future," says Deerfield Township Board President Julie Seitz.

According to Monica Kelsey with Safe Haven Baby Box, the new baby box would not have been possible without the support of the Deerfield Township Trustees, especially Trustee Lelle Lutts Hedding. Kelsey says, "We would like to thank the Deerfield Township Board of Trustees and Deerfield Township Fire Rescue for bringing this important initiative to their community."

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Deerfield Township (<u>www.choosedeerfieldtwp.com</u>) spans 16 square miles in the southwest corner of Warren County and has borders with both Hamilton and Butler Counties. It is currently the most populous jurisdiction in the County with more than 42,000 residents.

Safe Haven Baby Boxes (<u>www.shbb.org</u>) was founded by Monica Kelsey on a mission to end infant abandonment. In addition to helping communities install baby boxes, the organization provides a confidential hotline, 1-866-99BABY1 to help parents in need. Since 2017, 55 infants have been safely and legally surrendered using Baby Box.