

## 2020 END OF YEAR NEWSLETTER

# Babies, babies, and more babies!



In 2020, 5 babies were safely surrendered by their loving mother into one of our boxes in the state of Indiana alone! That's right; five healthy babies were loved so much by their mothers that they safely surrendered with complete anonymity. These mothers chose to give their child the best life possible. This selfless act is also fulfilling a loving family's wish to meet the child meant to be in their arms all along.

Thank you once again for your support of Safe Haven Baby Boxes! 2020 has been a pivotal year for Safe Haven Baby Boxes and has ended with tremendous results. Not only did we increase the number of baby boxes, but we also increased our presence in more states. We are reaching out to more mothers in a crisis than ever before and setting the stage for continued growth in the coming years. ~~Monica Kelsey, Founder/CEO



### Progress has been made in spreading our mission.

On January 1st, 2020, Safe Haven Baby Boxes had 23 active Baby Boxes in three states in the U.S. We are expected to finish this year with 60 total boxes installed and active in four states. What a record-breaking year! There is a need for this mission, and it is being heard loud and clear due to all of your support! We are excited to see what 2021 brings!

#### **BABY BOX #50 BLESSED IN MUNCIE, INDIANA**



That's right! We hit the big 50, and what a celebration it was! With the sun shining down on an unseasonably warm November day, Fire Station, #1 in Muncie, Indiana, became home to our 50th baby box in the nation. We celebrated with many of the Muncie residents, firefighters, and even the Mayor! Along with many of the SHBB employees and our dear friend Linda Znachko, from He Knows Your Name Ministry, we also had a special guest near and dear to our

hearts, BABY GRACE! Baby Grace was our third baby that was placed in one of our Baby

Boxes. Along with baby Grace, we also had her amazing forever family to celebrate this huge accomplishment for our mission! Safe Haven Baby Boxes even provided some yummy specialty cookies and SHBB face masks at no charge for attending! A HUGE THANK YOU to all who have supported us to get to this point.



## **BEYOND THE BOX**

The story of a mother that chose to parent her child instead of placing her inside our box.



In October, a mother in need contacted our crisis hotline to assist her with finding a location to surrender her newborn safely. While speaking with our counselor, it became clear that this mother did not want to surrender her child; however, she felt she had no other choice. As the counselor continued to talk to this mother, she realized quickly that this mother could parent her newborn; she was just missing a support system and resources that she knew Safe Haven Baby Boxes could provide.



As soon as Safe Haven Baby Boxes heard this mother's needs, we sprung into action. We set up a registry for this mother for all essentials for herself and her child to succeed. Shortly after making this registry available, all of the items were purchased and sent to this mother from our loyal supporters. This mother quickly realized that she now had an army of support through Safe Haven Baby Boxes. She and the baby are doing fantastic and keep in contact with us regularly. We are so thankful she considered her options that go beyond the Baby Box.

"I am amazed by the kindness and generosity of your supporters! From the bottom of my heart, thank you!"~~~Birthmom

#### **ANNUAL BANQUET WITH WILLIE ROBERTSON!**



"Monica's story was just so incredible to me, on so many different levels. It's amazing to see this come together. You've taken the concept of abandonment and somehow brought hope out of that... This is a really cool, positive thing, and I think it's going to spread on.".

Willie Robertson, Duck Dynasty

#### **AWARDS RECEIVED IN 2020**

Monica Kelsey receives awards for her strong work and dedication to saving lives.

#### **RESPECT FOR LIFE AWARD**

The Respect for Life Award is given to outstanding persons or organizations in the community that have a profound impact on the pro-life movement. These persons or organizations were not afraid to embody pro-life values in the public arena.

Awarded by Right to Life of Indianapolis.



# MARY LOUISE LOWE LIFE AWARD

This award is given to individuals, organizations, or businesses that have impacted the pro-life movement in North Central Indiana. The award is named after Mary Louise Lowe, who passed away in 2019. Mary was one of the co-founding members of Kosciusko County Right to Life in 1973.

Awarded by Indiana Right to Life of North Central Indiana.

#### ATAYA KASER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

In February 2019, Safe Haven Baby Boxes launched the Ataya Kaser Memorial Scholarship. Ataya was a beautiful 14-year-old girl tragically killed in a car accident on October 7, 2018. She was also a Safe Haven Baby Boxes supporter, attending events with her mother, an SHBB volunteer.

Safe Haven Baby Boxes and the Ataya Kaser Memorial Scholarship Committee seeks to award high school and college students committed to using their gifts and talents to demonstrate awareness and take proactive steps to raise awareness of Safe Haven Laws throughout the United States.



#### **MOVING INTO 2021**

Yes, 2020 was a RECORD BREAKING year; however, that just means that we will work hard in 2021 to continue on this upward path we are on. We will grow our mission, make Baby Boxes available in more states, provide more information



via billboards, host or attend more speaking events, assist mothers through our crisis hotline and place Baby Boxes wherever we can! We can't stop, we won't stop, and we embrace every moment!

We will continue till abandonments no longer happen! ~~~ Monica Kelsey