

Media release
June 4, 2014

Newborn placed in baby window

On 4 June 2014, at 2.15 pm, a healthy newborn was laid in the baby window at Einsiedeln Regional Hospital. The infant boy had been born the same day and will remain in the hospital for the time being for further medical examinations. The child and adult protection authority for Ausserschwyz was informed immediately. A custodian will take on the rights and duties that the parents of a child would normally have. In particular, special attention is given to ensuring privacy is maintained for the boy and the mother.

The mother of the child can come forward at the child and adult protection authority for Ausserschwyz, which is located in Pfäffikon¹, or at the Swiss Aid for Mother and Child Foundation to make contact with the child. Absolute discretion and unbureaucratic assistance is assured in order to find the best solution for both mother and child.

Offer of help in extreme situations

The baby window in Einsiedeln is part of a joint project between the Einsiedeln Regional Hospital and the Swiss Aid for Mother and Child Foundation (SAMC). SAMC provides advisory services and direct assistance to women, couples and families who find themselves in need because of a pregnancy or the birth of a child. The baby window was installed to provide an offer of help in extreme situations. It is designed to help prevent infanticide or child abandonment. If a mother finds herself in a situation with no way out, the baby window gives her the opportunity to anonymously put the child into safe hands. Until adoption becomes official, the mother or father are entitled to ask for the child to be returned under the condition that maternity or paternity can be proven without a doubt and the conditions are right for returning the child. The child can be adopted after one year of care and upbringing.

For further information: **Einsiedeln Regional Hospital**, Reto Jeger, Tel 055 418 51 11

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