

BIRTH & BEREAVEMENT RESOURCES IN THE WICHITA, KS AREA:

FIND CERTIFIED LOCAL BIRTH & BEREAVEMENT DOULAS:

<http://stillbirthday.com/2011/07/25/kansas-resources/>

LOCAL BIRTH & BEREAVEMENT PHOTOGRAPHERS: *(with Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep)*

Tiffany Schmidt (T-Marie Photography)

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Meagan Vogel (M-Photography)

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Webstie: www.m-photography.redframe.com

Hannah Trussell (Trussell Media)

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Anita Estes (AJ Photography)

Email: anita@ajphotography.com

Phone: 316-775-2800

Website: www.ajphotography.com

PERINATAL HOSPICE:

Choices Medical Clinic

Address: 538 S. Bleckley Dr., Wichita KS 67218

Phone: 316-687-2792

Website: <http://www.choicesmedicalclinic.org>

Services Provided: Compassionate care for unplanned pregnancies and a perinatal hospice program.

ABORTION SUPPORT

Trust Women

Address: P.O. Box 3222, Wichita KS 67201

Phone: 316-425-3215

Email: info@itrustwomen.org

Website: www.itrustwomen.org

COUNSELING SERVICES:

Mental Health Association of South Central Kansas

Address: 555 N. Woodlawn, Suite 3105, Wichita, KS 67208

Phone: 316-685-1821

Email: info@mhasck.org

Services Provided: Mother's Embrace is a postpartum recovery program. The birth of a new baby is an adjustment and a lifestyle change. Sometimes, the transition is more difficult than expected. Mother's Embrace will help mothers transition into their new life. Treatment for Postpartum mood disorders works. These mood disorder include the Baby Blues, Postpartum Depression, Postpartum Anxiety and Postpartum Psychosis. Treatment is individualized and can include therapy, medication or a combination of both.

Pregnancy Crisis Center of Wichita

Address: 1040 N. West St, Wichita KS 67203

Email: info@pccwichita.org

Website: www.imagineagain.com

Phone: 316-945-9400

Hours: 10 am – 7 pm Mon, Tue, Thu; 10 am – 4 pm Wed; 10 am – 1 pm Fri

Population Served: Women, men, families, teens

Fees: None

Services Provided: Offering confidential crisis counseling and assistance to women and families in the Wichita community who are unprepared for pregnancy. Our first focus is the pregnant woman—meeting her needs and offering physical, emotional, and spiritual support so she can make a life affirming decision for her baby and herself. Practical support and accurate information is offered.

SUPPORT GROUPS:

SIDS Network of Kansas, Inc

Address: 1148 S Hillside, Ste 10, Wichita, KS 67211

Phone: 316-682-1301 Toll Free: 866-399-7437 Fax: 316-682-1274

Email: sidsks@aol.com

Website: www.sidsks.org

Meeting Day: 4th Mon of the month

Meeting Time: 7:00-8:30pm

*Childcare is available-please call ahead in advance

Services Provided: Providing peer support for parents, families, friends and caregivers who have experienced the loss of a loved one due to SIDS or other sudden infant death, miscarriage or stillbirth. *Please contact to RSVP for meetings.*

Child of My Heart Ministries - St. Francis of Assisi Church

Address: 861 N. Socora

Phone: 316-208-5578 (Christina Peek)

Email: christinadpeek@gmail.com

Website: <http://catholicdioceseofwichita.org/family/bereavement-links/loss-of-a-child>

Meeting Day: 2nd Monday of every month at 7pm

Services Provided: Child of My Heart is a Catholic based ministry in the Diocese of Wichita for parents experiencing loss of a baby through miscarriage, stillbirth, or infant loss. The three mothers/families supporting this ministry have experienced their own losses and understand the uniqueness of the grieving process. Each story is as unique as the person telling it and everyone is at a different stage, whether it's been a recent loss or if it's been a few years.

Glory Babies @ Central Christian Church

Address: 2900 N. Rock Rd, Wichita KS 67226

Phone: 316-619-6279 (Amy Stevens) 316-706-1822 (Melissa Scapa)

Email: glorybabies@hotmail.com

Website: http://www.ccc.org/glory_babies

Meeting Day: Third Thursday of every month from 7-8:30pm, in the Parlor (entrance #4)

Services Provided: Glory Babies is a ministry of Central that walks with women through the journey of miscarriage, stillbirth, and infertility. We don't pretend to have all the answers; we are here to pray, listen, support, encourage, and walk with women on their journey toward healing. We have a wonderful group of women who are available and ready to meet with women one on one, talk on the phone, or email.

Kidzcope

Address: 9415 E. Harry Ste 501

Phone: 316-263-3335

Email:

Services: Support groups and resources for grieving children and their families.

The Compassionate Friends - Sunflower Chapter

Address: 6100 W Maple St., Wichita KS 67209

Phone: 316-304-9656 (Todd)

Email: sunflowertcf@gmail.com

Website: www.compassionatefriends.org

Meeting Day: 1st Thursday of each month at 7pm

Services Provided: If you are a member (or a friend) of a family that has suffered the death of a child, The Compassionate Friends is here to help you and provide support for the family. Feel free to contact TCF's National Office at 877-969-0010 or nationaloffice@compassionatefriends.org if you need assistance in finding a local Chapter or you have any other questions. When you call, we'll be happy to put together, at no charge, a customized packet of bereavement materials specifically chosen to apply to your situation. We'll also be glad to provide contact information to the nearest TCF Chapter, one where the whole family can gather with others who understand because they are walking the same path.

FUNERAL HOMES:

Biglow Funeral Directors

Address: 957 N. Oliver, Wichita KS 67208

Phone: 316-247-5492

Website: <http://www.biglowfuneraldirectors.com>

Cochran Mortuary & Crematory

Address: 1411 N. Broadway, Wichita KS 67214

Phone: 316-262-2422

Website: <https://www.meaningfulfunerals.net>

Downing & Lahey

Address: 6555 E. Central Ave, Wichita KS 67206

Phone: 316-682-4553

Website: <http://www.downingandlahey.com>

Old Mission Mortuary and Cemetery

Address: 3424 E. 21st St N., Wichita KS 67208

Phone: 316-686-7311

Website: <http://www.oldmissionmortuary.com>

Smith Family Mortuaries

Address: 1415 N. Rock Rd., Derby KS 67037

Phone: 316-788-2828

Email: info@smithfamilymortuaries.com

Website: www.smithfamilymortuaries.com

PLANNING SERVICES & SUPPORT:**Love From Logan**

Website: <https://www.lovefromlogan.com>

Email: lovefromlogan@gmail.com

Services: Memorial planning and setup.

AgapéCare Cradle

Address: P.O. Box 704, Wichita, KS 67201

Phone: 316-263-4673

Website: www.agapecarecradle.org/need-our-help/

Services Provided: A specialized nonprofit mortuary service for infants.

BREASTMILK DONATION:**Eats on Feets**

Website: <http://www.eatsonfeets.org>

Local Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/EoFKansas>

Services Provided: Eats On Feets and Eats on Feets Facebook pages facilitate a world-wide network of parents, guardians and professionals who have made the informed choice to share or support the sharing of breastmilk. The Facebook pages provide a commerce-free space where families can share their milk in a safe, ethical manner.

Human Milk 4 Human Babies

Website: <http://hm4hb.net>

Local Facebook Group: www.facebook.com/HM4HBKS

Services Provided: The mission of Human Milk 4 Human Babies Global Network is to promote the nourishment of babies and children around the world with human milk. We are dedicated to fostering community between local families who have chosen to share breastmilk.

OTHER BIRTH & BEREAVEMENT RESOURCES:

ONLINE RESOURCES:

Bridget's Cradles

Website: <http://www.bridgetscradles.com>

Email: bridgetscradles@outlook.com

Services Provided: Bridget's Cradles™ provides hand-made knitted and crocheted cradles to hospitals to offer to families whose babies were born into Heaven in the second trimester of pregnancy. Because babies are so small in weeks 14-26 of pregnancy, traditional blankets do not meet their needs. Bridget's Cradles™ are soft and shaped to bundle the baby in love and designed for families to feel comfortable while holding and bonding with their baby. Cradles can also be used for burial as they provide a nurturing womb-like environment for the baby.

Count the Kicks

Website: www.countthekicks.org

Phone: 515-523-5MOM

Email: info@countthekicks.org

Services Provided: Educating expectant parents about the importance of tracking baby's movements during the third trimester of pregnancy.

Heaven's Gain Ministries

Website: <http://www.heavensgain.com>

Heaven's Gain specializes in providing small baby caskets and burial products for families suffering the loss of a child through miscarriage, stillbirth, or infant death. Also providing miscarriage kits, books, and memorial items.

Now I Lay Me Down To Sleep (NILMDTS)

Website: <https://www.nowilaymedowntosleep.org>

Services Provided: Remembrance photography for parents suffering the loss of a baby with a free gift of professional portraiture. Includes information, resources, and a free app.

Purposeful Gift

Website: <http://purposefulgift.com/>

Services Provided: Creating a legacy for an infant whose life will be brief is important to many families. One way to create a lasting legacy is through the purposeful gift of organ and tissue donation. Organ and tissue donation can allow your child to impact the lives of others directly through transplant or indirectly through lifesaving research and medical advances after they have passed away.

StillBirthDay

Website: www.stillbirthday.com

Services Provided: Support, information, and resources for anyone dealing with the loss of their baby at any stage of pregnancy or after birth.

Twinless Twins Support Group

Website: <http://www.twinlesstwins.org>

Provides a safe and compassionate community for twinless twins to experience healing and understanding. Support for twins and other multiples who have lost their twin due to death or estrangement at any age.

KEEPSAKES & MEMORIALS:

Eugene Rain Glass Memorial Art

Website: <http://glassmemorialart.com>

Encapsulating the cremated remains of your loved one in jewelry, marble/glass creations.

Forever Prints

Website: <http://myforeverprints.com>

A pottery keepsake company helping Families to preserve their Child's handprint and footprints, as well as their artwork with ceramic keepsakes.

Held Your Whole Life

Website: <http://www.heldyourwholelife.com>

Provides free keepsake necklaces or keychains to bereaved families experiencing the loss of a baby in utero. Their mission is to acknowledge life and recognize babies born in silence. The keepsakes have your baby's beautiful name on it and are stamped with the phrase "Held Your Whole Life." They take requests at the beginning of each month.

Keepsakes Etc.

Website: <http://www.keepsakes-etc.com/sympathygift.html>

Custom-designed condolence gifts can be personalized In Memory Of, with name and date, or thinking of you.

Molly Bears

Website: <https://www.mollybears.org>

Weighted teddy bears for families coping with any form of infant loss.

My Forever Child

Website: <http://myforeverchild.com>

Keepsakes and Jewelry for Remembrance, Healing and Hope

Rustic Stone Memorials

Website: <https://www.rusticstone.net/garden-stone-memorial-plaques-uk/>

Personalized memorial stones and garden paving stones.

The Comfort Cub

Website: <https://www.thecomfortcub.org>

The Comfort Cub® is a therapeutic teddy bear that helps people to heal from the pain of a broken heart. It was created by a grieving mother, after the loss of her son, to help others who were also in need of comfort. This teddy bear is specially weighted and was originally intended to feel like holding a newborn. Since then, the Comfort Cub has been used to comfort anyone experiencing a loss of any kind. It has also been clinically proven to help alleviate the symptoms of grief.

BOOKS/RECOMMENDED READING:

A Gift of Time: Continuing Your Pregnancy When Your Baby's Life Is Expected to Be Brief - Amy Kuebelbeck & Deborah L. Davis

A gentle and practical guide for parents who decide to continue their pregnancy knowing that their baby's life will be brief.

About What Was Lost: 20 Writers on Miscarriage, Healing, and Hope - Jessica Berger Gross, Editor

In this intimate anthology, twenty writers explore the grief and sadness—and hope—that living through a miscarriage can bring.

An Exact Replica of a Figment of My Imagination: A Memoir - Elizabeth McCracken

"This is the happiest story in the world with the saddest ending," writes Elizabeth McCracken in her powerful, inspiring memoir. A prize-winning, successful novelist in her 30s, McCracken was happy to be an itinerant writer and self-proclaimed spinster. But suddenly she fell in love, got married, and two years ago was living in a remote part of France, working on her novel, and waiting for the birth of her first child.

This book is about what happened next. In her ninth month of pregnancy, she learned that her baby boy had died. How do you deal with and recover from this kind of loss? Of course you don't—but you go on. And if you have ever experienced loss or love someone who has, the company of this remarkable book will help you go on. With humor and warmth and unfailing generosity, McCracken considers the nature of love and grief. She opens her heart and leaves all of ours the richer for it.

Difficult Decisions: For Families Whose Unborn Baby Has a Serious Problem - Patricia Fertel

These decisions take great strength. With gentle support we deal with loss, hopelessness, relating to others and community resources. If you decide to continue your pregnancy, if you decide to terminate this book offers support.

Empty Cradle, Broken Heart: Surviving the Death of Your Baby - Deborah Davis, Ph.D.

Encourages grieving and makes suggestions for coping. Incisive comments from parents who have suffered through the death of a baby convincingly relay this message: "You are not alone and you can survive."

Ghostbelly - Elizabeth Heineman

Ghostbelly is a personal account of a home birth that goes tragically wrong—ending in a stillbirth—and the harrowing process of grief and questioning that follows. It's also Heineman's unexpected tale of the loss of a newborn: before burial, she brings the baby home for overnight stays.

Grieve Like a Man: Finding God's Strength As You Walk Through Your Loss - Jonathan Fann

Grieve like a Man offers men a practical guide to navigating the path of grief in a culture where men are taught to be tough. The author also provides insight for wives, mothers, sisters, and friends into how men grieve differently than women and how they can come alongside the men in their lives who are hurting from a loss. Readers will learn how to face grief that occurs, not just in the case of death, but also during the loss of a marriage, jobs, and even a man's hopes and dreams. An encouraging book for every man dealing with loss.

Helping Children Grieve - Theresa Huntley

Shows how children of various ages understand death and offers positive ways for parents and other caring adults to help them grieve.

I Will Carry You: The Sacred Dance of Grief and Joy - Angie Smith

In 2008, Angie Smith and her husband Todd (lead singer of the group Selah) learned through ultrasound that their fourth daughter had conditions making her "incompatible with life." Advised to terminate the pregnancy, the Smiths chose instead to carry this child and allow room for a miracle. That miracle came the day they met Audrey Caroline and got the chance to love her for the precious two-and-a-half hours she lived on earth. Upon receiving the original diagnosis, Angie started a blog (Bring the Rain) to keep family and friends informed of their journey. Soon, the site exploded in popularity, connecting with thousands who were either experiencing their own heartbreaking situations or simply curious about how God could carry someone through something so tragic. *I Will Carry You* tells the powerful

story of a parent losing her child, interwoven with the biblical story of Lazarus to help those who mourn to still have hope—to find grace and peace in the sacred dance of grief and joy.

In a Heartbeat - Dawn Siegrist Waltman

In a Heartbeat touches the darkest, loneliest places of a grieving parent's heart. This book reveals the true-life experiences of the author's personal journey through grief, hope, and healing following the stillbirth of her little girl. Within these pages you will find understanding and empathy, a sense of companionship and friendship, courage to face holidays and difficult occasions, reassurance of God's loving kindness, and the life-changing hope of heaven. If you have suffered the tragic loss of a child through miscarriage, stillbirth, or early infant death, this book was written especially for you. Or share it with a friend or loved one in their time of need. It says what only someone who has been there can say.

Naming the Child: Hope-Filled Reflections on Miscarriage, Stillbirth, and Infant Death

- Jenny Schroedel

Hope and healing for those who suddenly find themselves in the most terrible sort of grief. For those who have experienced miscarriage, stillbirth, or the death of a child within the first year, this gentle resource offers stories of hope and wisdom, practical advice and guidance, based on the experience of many; and comfort and ways to honor and remember. Naming the Child creates a community of love and support for bereaving parents and siblings, written with a light touch and sensitive spirit.

Surviving Pregnancy Loss: A Complete Sourcebook for Women and their Families

- Rochelle Friedman

This sourcebook is designed for those women who have suffered the trauma of pregnancy loss, and is designed to be both reassuring and insightful, offering clinical advice on how to deal with the pain of miscarriage, stillbirth or ectopic pregnancy. This revised edition has been expanded to include information on in-vitro and surviving a loss after amniocentesis, and is designed to be of interest to women suffering the effects of a pregnancy loss and for those who care for and about them, providing practical approaches to coping with the emotional problems associated with a pregnancy loss. The book includes personal accounts by women who have undergone a pregnancy loss as well as a discussion of the physical and emotional consequences of loss and a consideration of options for the future - trying again or considering adoption.

Swallowed by a Snake: The Gift of the Masculine Side of Healing - Thomas R. Golden

Swallowed by a Snake is a book for men and women about the masculine side of healing from loss. Discover new and powerful ways to heal. How the genders differ in their healing. Greater understanding between partners. Examples of successful transformation of loss. New ways to understand your grief. Ways the individual's loss can impact the entire family. Swallowed by a Snake is meant to be a map and a guide through the experience of loss. It will help you move through the pain of loss and into a place of healing and transformation.

Unspeakable Losses: Healing from Miscarriage, Abortion, and Other Pregnancy Loss

- Kim Kluger-Bell

This soothing book is a must--not simply for women who have experienced pregnancy loss, but also for their partners and those who care about them. Kim Kluger-Bell, a therapist specializing in the psychodynamics of losing a child before birth--whether to abortion, miscarriage, or other loss--strips away the shrouds of silence surrounding this unique pain. She gives new voice to these "unspeakable losses," in a culture that has rendered its discussion taboo.

Walking the Labyrinth of My Heart: A Journey of Pregnancy, Grief, and Newborn Death

- Dianna Vagianos Armentrout

Through journal entries, essays and poetry, Dianna invites the reader to process grief and honor the life of the child, no matter how brief. In addition, readers will learn how to support the bereaved by remembering the baby and pregnancy.

FUNDRAISING AND RESEARCH:

March of Dimes

Address: 1202 E. 1st St. Wichita KS 67214

Email: jbaig@marchofdimes.com

Website: www.marchofdimes.com

Phone: 316-267-9255

Hours: 9am–5pm, Mon-Fri

Population Served: Mothers who are expecting, parents who have had a premature child and educators

Fees: None

Services Provided: To improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, prematurity and infant mortality, through community services, advocacy, research and education.

FACEBOOK SUPPORT GROUPS:

Still Mothers Support

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/stillmothers/>

For mothers with no living children.

Still Fathers Support

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/stillfatherssupport/>

For fathers with no living children.

Still Grandparents Support

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/stillgrandparents.support/>

For Parents of Still Mothers or Still Fathers, without a grandchild born after loss.

Stillbirth, Infant, and Child Loss Support Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1508175106112652/>

For all parents that mourn the loss of a child at any stage.

Miscarriage, Stillbirth, and Termination Support Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/859439780827301/>

For those struggling with miscarriage, stillbirth, and termination.

Lactation After Loss

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/274337542769436/>

Supporting your options for lactation after loss; drying up supply, or donation.