



Thank you for your interest in beginning a local Love Cupboard. This is one way to continue the legacy of your own child, or a special child who has touched you. The most important practical thing you need to run a Love Cupboard, is simply a bit of dry, clean storage space. The website outlines getting started in that area. You can check with your local mom's groups, churches, thrift stores, online auction/resale shops and your friends for gathering maternity and newborn items that you'd like to carry in your Love Cupboard.

Stillbirthday provides you with an email address that reflects the name you choose for your Love Cupboard. If someone in your community is in need of items, they will contact you through the stillbirthday email, which will be conveniently forwarded right to your own email account that you registered with. This serves to help you discern any spam emails.

The website outlines information on meeting with families and gifting them with items.

A Love Cupboard has multiple benefits, and will have as big or as small an impact on your community as you invest in it with your time in telling others and spreading the word about it. You can use the local professionals listings at stillbirthday to find locations within your community who may benefit from knowing about your Love Cupboard, including hospitals, perinatal hospices, and doulas in your area.

In addition to storing clothing and other items to gift to families, you may extend your services to temporarily holding some items from families who experienced a loss and are unsure yet what to do with their baby's belongings. In order for this service to be successful, it is very important to write a contract that outlines your expectations. This contract should be signed by the parents and you should retain one copy. It should include your expectations on what

items you will and will not accept, it should include your liability statement for such incidents as fire or other natural destruction of their items while in your care (i.e. "this Love Cupboard is not liable for any damage..."), and any timeframe you agree to holding their items, and what happens if the family has not collected their things by then.

Stillbirthday is not liable to any damages incurred during any incident by any Love Cupboard or by any person or business entity represented at stillbirthday, so it is important to determine and articulate your own liability position.

Get Together & Get Involved

Once your Love Cupboard is established, you can email other Love Cupboard coordinators for ideas and ways that they stay active in their communities.

One such idea is a Sewing Circle. This is not a counseling group, but is a gathering of interested volunteers agreeing to sew various items that will be donated to local institutions. For example, you might sew tiny cloth diapers for your local maternity hospital, so that they can present two to each mother experiencing perinatal loss. One diaper is given for the baby to wear, and the other is given to the mother as a keepsake. You don't need to know how to sew! Attached you'll find a sample document that you can use as a beginning template, to create a flyer. This can generate a group of interested volunteers to get started. Organizations such as Teeny Tears provide amazingly helpful information. The diaper photo is theirs so please only use it if you are using their sewing templates.

Your Love Cupboard is your own project. You can arrange for community projects, and you can raise awareness in your community about the importance of support for families. We have many printable resources at our Local Representative tab, which you may utilize as well. Finally, take photos of your events, of your Love Cupboard, and send them in to stillbirthday so that we can feature you and your work in our news section.

Thank you again, for being a part and making a difference.

Mom's Connection Love Cupboard

Presents

Sewing Circle



Mom's Connection Love Cupboard is a program I coordinate through stillbirthday.com in honor of my baby, Christian, who was born via miscarriage. As part of my Love Cupboard services, I am coordinating a sewing circle. We will be making tiny diapers for our local maternity hospital.

Date:

Time:

Location:

What to bring: I recommend visiting the Teeny Tears website and printing their tutorials. For our first meeting, please don't bring any supplies. Our first meeting is to gather interest and plan. While you may sew at home, following meetings will include sewing and potluck style snacking (details covered at first meeting).

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