



## **First Hospital in Illinois to Expand Child Safety with New Baby Box Program for Safe Sleeping**

*Successful Practice from Finland Makes Its Way to Saint Anthony Hospital in Chicago*

**CHICAGO**, May 7, 2018 – Saint Anthony Hospital has partnered with The Baby Box Co. to provide new and expecting parents with baby boxes, making it the first hospital in Illinois to offer this program. The addition of the baby box program may help the reduction of infant mortality rates, especially related to safe sleep environments, and provide better health through empowering parents with access to free products and online education.

"At Saint Anthony Hospital, we strive to improve the health and well-being of mothers and children in our community and are constantly seeking new ways to put child safety at the forefront of our care," said Michele Bucciero, MD, Medical Director for Obstetrics and Gynecology at Saint Anthony Hospital. "With this new program, we are not only providing newborns with a safe sleeping space, but education for parents on safe sleep practices and other important educational resources."

This innovative program was inspired by the maternity package that the Finnish government send to all expectant mothers. Baby Box distribution in conjunction with community health and education have helped Finland achieve one of the world's lowest infant mortality rates.

"The tradition of baby boxes comes from Finland and is based on the idea that every child deserves an equal start in life," said Jennifer Clary, Founder of The Baby Box Co. "We are proud to partner with Saint Anthony Hospital to bring this wonderful program to parents in the Chicago area to ensure they receive high-quality, free education and products that will help them best protect their children and make them feel more empowered."

The baby boxes are certified to meet the highest level of safety standards and are intended to be used as a safe sleep space for a child's first months of life. To qualify for a baby box, expectant and new parents just need to follow three easy steps. 1) Register online at [babyboxuniversity.com](http://babyboxuniversity.com); 2) Watch a series of short videos and take a quiz; and 3) bring your certificate of completion to Saint Anthony Hospital to receive a baby box. For more information, a Saint Anthony Hospital Patient Navigator is available to answer questions and guide you through the process to safer sleeping practices for babies. She can be contacted at 773.573.4767.

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