



# Mother and Infant Care Service



*“The new idea, conceived and born of Truth and Love, is clad in white garments.”*

Mary Baker Eddy

**The Benevolent Association’s Mother and Infant Care Service provides the loving support of Christian Science nursing for expectant parents. Our services include support in preparation for the baby’s arrival, the ministry of Christian Science nursing during the labor and delivery; and a provision for the continued loving care and support for the mother and baby, or babies, for the first few days after the delivery. This care includes working with family members in caring for the new arrival.**

**T**he BA’s Mother and Infant Care services consist of a team of Christian Science nurses who are experienced in representing our Church Manual

By-law, “Christian Science Nurse” to be a witness to welcoming the new baby with an active embrace of divine Science. Christian Science nurses work side-by-side with your family during labor and delivery, providing loving, practical care for this sweet time of the

baby’s arrival. This would also include the family engaging professionals trained specifically for the



responsibility regarding the delivery who would be present at a birth—midwives, physicians and/or registered nurses.

We are prepared to work in a variety of settings. The Christian Science nurses who work with the family will be prepared to be on call for the weeks surrounding the due date.



*“The Christian Science nurses helped us transition into our new roles as parents with grace.”*

*From a grateful parent*

## Frequently asked questions

**Q. What if we're only interested in having the support of Christian Science nurses once the baby has arrived?**

A. Although we offer our services for both the labor and delivery and for after the baby is born, we are also happy to support for just the labor and delivery or just for the time once the baby has arrived.

**Q. My husband is going to be with me during the labor and delivery. With the midwives or physician, won't it feel crowded to also have Christian Science nurses there?**

A. We've supported in a wide variety of situations, working harmoniously with many different individuals. We're very aware of our particular role for the case, and so we've found a natural ease in ministering with Christian Science nursing as others carry out their specific role and/or responsibility.

**Q. What is considered the "on call" period surrounding the due date?**

A. While this will depend on the specifics of each case, we are prepared to be on call (meaning that we would be immediately available by phone and within close proximity to arrive in a timely manner) beginning two

to three weeks before the due date and until the baby arrives.

**Q. What is it like to have a Christian Science nurse stay in the home to provide support for the time after the baby has just arrived?**

A. We're there to support the family with getting familiar with how to care for the particular needs of the newborn and also to support with a sense of comfort and rest for baby and parents during this active and sweet time of welcoming the new little one. This will look different depending on the family's individual needs and circumstances. We work to support with feeding the baby, a nice sense of rest for the baby, changing diapers, and how to properly hold and carry the baby, to give a few examples.

**Q. After the Christian Science nurses leave, can we still call on you if we have a question or would like some further support?**

A. Of course! We encourage you to feel free to call if you have a question at any time. And, the BA's Christian Science nursing services are always available for you to call on. Many families have kept in touch to ask questions as their little one is growing.



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