

# Baby Bottle Boomerang

Thank you for choosing to serve as an Ambassador for Bridgehaven's 2017 Baby Bottle Boomerang! This sheet is to help you understand your role as you help make this year's campaign a success for the ministry and your church congregation. Please review the information and contact Kylee Pusteoska at [kylee@bridgehavencr.org](mailto:kylee@bridgehavencr.org) or 319-364-8967 with any questions.

## **Purpose of Baby Bottle Boomerang (BBB)**

*Bridgehaven's mission is to empower choices for life through Christ-centered education and support.*

Baby Bottle Boomerang supports the mission of Bridgehaven by serving three specific purposes:

- 1) Build prayer support and strengthen the relationship between your Church and Bridgehaven
- 2) Highlight and increase awareness of Bridgehaven's services
- 3) Raise money to support the ministry and services of Bridgehaven

Bridgehaven walks alongside individuals before, during, and after pregnancy. All services are offered at no cost to the client and include:

- Sexual and Relational Health Education to middle and high school students
- Client Advocacy, Pregnancy Testing, and Ultrasound for those facing a pregnancy decision
- Weekly Life Skills Class and Material Assistance to those who are pregnant or parenting
- Post-Abortion Recovery Support for those who have experienced an abortion in their past.

*Statistics show that 1 out of 4 women in the church have experienced an abortion. Please be sensitive to that fact and remember to highlight Bridgehaven's abortion recovery program.*

## **Ambassador Role**

*Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, certain that God is appealing through us.  
(2 Corinthians 5:20a)*

Your role as an Ambassador is a very important one, and Baby Bottle Boomerang would not be possible without you! As an Ambassador, you are the liaison between your church and Bridgehaven. If you are at a larger church or anticipate having a team of people help you, please see the *Ambassador Team Job Descriptions* in addition to the information below.

## ***Getting Ready***

1. **Schedule Your BBB Campaign** – Meet with your pastor or worship planning team to determine your BBB kick-off date, collection date (most campaigns run 3-4 weeks), discuss any logistical concerns, and determine the number of bottles needed for your congregation.
2. **Make a Plan** – Decide the best way to distribute the bottles to your congregation. If you are at a large church, you may need to invite others to help you (see Team Descriptions for a breakdown of helpful roles). Many churches choose to introduce the project during service on Kick-Off Sunday and have an area designated where members can pick-up bottles to take home. Other churches distribute bottles through smalls groups or Sunday school classes. Make a plan that works for your church.

3. **Coordinate with Bridgehaven** – To ensure a smooth BBB campaign, please communicate the following information with Kylee at [kylee@bridgehavencr.org](mailto:kylee@bridgehavencr.org) or 319-364-8967 at least one week prior to your desired Kick-Off date to allow time for us to gather your materials and schedule staff support:
  - a. Desired kick-off date for your church.
  - b. Number of bottles needed for your congregation.
  - c. Request a Bridgehaven staff member to speak to your congregation on Kick-Off Sunday. This can be 1 minute to 20 minutes where we celebrate your church's partnership and share your impact through BBB. We are also available to assist you as you distribute bottles or in other ways specific to your church. Just let us know how we can best support you!
  - d. Desired date to pick up your bottles and BBB materials (if a Bridgehaven staff person will be attending your Kick-Off, they can bring everything along).
  
4. **Get to Know Bridgehaven** – If you are a new Ambassador, it's important that you understand who Bridgehaven is, what we do, and why we do it. We recommend signing up for a Ministry Tour on our website so you can see the center, learn about the ministry, hear stories of the work God is doing here, and ask questions of our staff.

### ***Kick-Off Sunday***

1. **Share about Bridgehaven's ministry and the impact of Baby Bottle Boomerang.** Here are a few ways to do this:
  - a. Bridgehaven staff member speaks to your congregation about your churches partnership and the impact of BBB on the ministry. This can be 1 minute to 20 minutes, depending on your congregation.
  - b. Show the ministry video. In less than 1 minute, your congregation will get a glimpse into the work God is doing through Bridgehaven. The video is available on our website [www.bridgehavencr.org](http://www.bridgehavencr.org).
  - c. If you have a personal connection with the ministry and feel comfortable sharing, it's great for your congregation to hear from one of its members.
  - d. Distribute Bridgehaven brochures, prayer meditations, or other information to congregation members along with the bottles.
  
2. **Introduce the BBB video.** Here are two sample scripts (edit as necessary):
  - a. *Hi, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am the Ambassador for Bridgehaven Pregnancy Support Center's Baby Bottle Boomerang this year, along with \_\_\_\_\_ (if you are part of a team). Bridgehaven has been serving women and families in the community for over 30 years empowering choices for life. This short video will give you a glimpse into the work God is doing through Bridgehaven.*
  - b. *Hi, my name is \_\_\_\_\_. According to current US trends, 43% of women will have experienced an abortion by the age of 45, and within the evangelical community, 1 out of 4 women have had an abortion experience. It's also a fact that our teens within the church are more vulnerable to abortion than those who are unchurched. Any idea why that might be? Shame, guilt, fear of judgment, and protection of the family reputation are all factors which influence their decision to choose abortion. These sobering facts means that the support and services of Bridgehaven are VERY relevant for families within our congregation, as well as those outside the church. All Bridgehaven's*

*services are free and confidential, including their post-abortion recovery class. Please watch this short video to get a glimpse into the work God is doing through Bridgehaven.*

3. **Explain how BBB works.** Here are two sample scripts (edit as necessary):
  - a. *Thanks for being a part of this important project. After the service, please pick-up a bottle from \_\_\_\_\_ (location of distribution table). Put it in a prominent place in your home to remind you to pray for Bridgehaven, consider how God may be leading you to be a part of this ministry, and to fill up the bottle with coins, bills, or a check made payable to "Bridgehaven". Please return your bottles to \_\_\_\_\_ (location of collection) by \_\_\_\_\_ (end date).*
  - b. *Families or individuals wishing to participate please pick-up a bottle from \_\_\_\_\_ (location of distribution table) and take it home. Use the bottle as a reminder to pray for the ministry during the month. Then, fill up the bottle as you feel led to give with coins, bills, or checks made payable to "Bridgehaven". Each bottle has an insert so you may receive a receipt if you desire and may request more information on other ways to get involved. Also, anyone wishing to make a gift in honor or memory of someone may fill out that portion of the insert. Those wishing to make a gift with their credit card can give online at [www.bridgehavencr.org](http://www.bridgehavencr.org), designating their gift for Baby Bottle Boomerang. Please return your bottles to \_\_\_\_\_ (location of collection) by \_\_\_\_\_ (end date).*
4. **Distribute Baby Bottles.** At the check-out table, make sure that individuals/families put down their name and contact information on the check-out sheet when taking a bottle. This will make it much easier for your team to ensure the return of all bottles when the project finishes. It also allows Bridgehaven to exercise good stewardship of financial resources. *If you choose not to use a sign-out sheet for bottles, keep in mind that each bottle lost will cost Bridgehaven over \$1.00 to be replaced, thus reducing the funds raised. Some churches prefer to offer Bridgehaven funds to cover "lost" bottles rather than asking members to sign-out the bottles.*

### ***During the Month***

1. If possible, it's best to keep the ministry in front of your church family throughout the month that bottles are out. Brief reminders at the beginning of services work well. These reminders may highlight a different area of the ministry each week (Prevention, Client Advocacy, Client Support, Post-Abortion) and/or may introduce a new prayer focus each week. Some churches use bulletin announcements (a copy is provided with your materials).
2. Remind people throughout the month about the final date of the project so they can remember to bring their bottle that last Sunday. Be prepared for bottles to come back every week, and we suggest having a table where bottles were distributed. Some people will pick up bottles each week, as well.

### ***Wrapping up BBB***

1. On the final Sunday, individuals/families should return their bottles to the church. These bottles will need to be kept in a secure area and picked up immediately after each service. The filled bottles are very heavy, so you may need additional help moving them. The bottles should be returned to Bridgehaven as soon as possible after the final collection to ensure the money collect is kept safe and secure.

2. If possible, it's encouraging for the congregation to hear the total amount raised to support Bridgehaven. Once counted and confirmed, Bridgehaven will communicate this total to you so you can relay it to your church.

### ***BBB Materials***

1. Team Member Job Descriptions
2. Sample Bottle Sign-out Sheet
3. Sample Bulletin Insert
4. Sample Church Announcements
5. Promotional video (available on our website)

One copy of each will be included in your packet. Please make copies of these materials as needed or download additional copies from our website [www.bridgehavencr.org](http://www.bridgehavencr.org).

### ***Questions***

Contact Kylee Pusteoska at 319-364-8967 or email her at [kylee@bridgehavencr.org](mailto:kylee@bridgehavencr.org).