

2020 BNA Parent Survey Results



The BNA support I received was important to my personal well-being in the experience of carrying to term.

96% agree

4% neither agree or disagree

It totally transformed my experience of my pregnancy and the birth and death of our daughter. I cannot thank them enough.

I can't imagine how different (and how much harder) this journey would have been without BNA support.

We were lost and unsure of where to go until we came across BNA.

BNA helped me maintain my sanity. Everyone from a medical perspective was against me and my choice. BNA gave me the support to keep fighting for what I believed was right.

BNA responded to my questions and concerns in a timely manner.

100% agree

BNA was always there whenever I had questions, concerns or just needed to talk.

BNA was always available to answer our questions quickly. This is so important when dealing with a life limiting diagnosis

BNA peers, volunteers and staff were sensitive to my needs and knowledgeable.

100% agree

Everyone on staff was amazing. I valued their knowledge and advice completely. I felt like we were no longer facing this scary pregnancy alone and that there was hope.

BNA provided support not otherwise available to me.

100% agree

The BNA offered me unique, tailored support, not available from my medical team.

Our medical team stated they were very happy that we had the support of BNA because they didn't know of anything else similar in our area.

BNA had a positive impact on my communications and relationships with my medical providers.

96% agree

4% neither agree or disagree

BNA guided us with challenging our health care providers when necessary every step of the way.

BNA support gave me confidence in my communications with my medical team and the advice they gave me on how to communicate with them meant that I had the birth I wanted.

Our birth plan was SO well received. Even after our daughter was born, one of the NICU nurses said she read it before every shift and encouraged other nurses (even if they weren't caring for our daughter) to read it too.

The medical providers we met with said they could tell we were well informed and had done our research. One even emailed me saying she could tell we had good knowledgeable people helping us.

I would refer other parents to BNA.

100% said yes

I already have referred another parent to BNA.

Definitely.

I would encourage other parents experiencing a prenatal diagnosis to carry to term.

100% said yes

Absolutely--it is the most important job I have ever done and the thing I am most proud of in my whole life. Carrying to term has spared me the trauma of an abortion and has given me a wonderful peace about my baby's life and death.

Had we not I would have the biggest regret as I would have always thought what if. Or if I had met a child with the same condition. It's important to remember that OB/GYNs have never treated a child with this condition let alone any child.

Regardless of our outcome, it was so important to me to follow through with our journey and do everything in a way that honored the little life I was growing, regardless of the length of that life.

What did BNA offer that helped the most?

Someone to talk to—someone who “got it.” Sometimes when I'm doubting or feeling down particularly in relation to church stuff and things people have told me outside of BNA I remember what I was told early on, “other people are just ‘dumb and lucky.’” I love that I can just text someone and say “today sucks”...really I feel like I could say just about anything and hear back “I understand” without judgement or dismissal.

So much support when I did not know what I was doing.

Guidance and reassurance that we were not alone.

Everything BNA has given us has been helpful -- the medical information specific to our baby's condition, the advice on how to advocate for our baby to get the care he deserved, the prayer support, the emotional support, the care packages as we prepared for our baby's birth with the handmade blankets and the baptism kit, the peer mentor and prayer support following our baby's death...we appreciated everything so much. It had a huge impact on our whole experience. I just couldn't believe we received so much love and care and help from people we didn't even know. And without BNA's knowledge, support, and encouragement, we would not have had the very precious time we ended up getting with our son. He would have died during labor or immediately after. Because of Be Not Afraid, we had 39 precious hours with our baby.

Advice and always someone to talk to.

Medical advice, support, information and experience walking in our shoes. Clergy support, and connecting us with an amazing photographer/doula who walked us through our most challenging days.

Examples of birth plans, laying out all options once baby arrived, provided feedback on our own birth plan as well, and talked about options we had in the hospital once baby arrived.

The encouragement, the positive advice, and the medical understanding and terminology to save my son's life.

The one-on-one support. Writing my son's birth plan and telling me what to expect

A listening ear and follow up afterwards.

Advice on dealing with medical staff, how to best advocate for our baby, emotional support.

Support, prayers, guidance, assistance with a birth plan, knowledge about my options, experience, and mentoring.

Relatable women who understand more deeply than any family or friends because they have been in my shoes...the care packages were also incredibly thoughtful.

Support through the entire process. Just knowing if I was worried or had medical questions my husband and I would leave appointments and say to each other call BNA. We knew we would only receive the truth from them and felt so comfortable that if it was something someone was unsure of they found us the answer quickly.

Helping us navigate the birth plan.

Encouragement during the low points.

Information, support, compassion.

The life-saving moment for my daughter was reading a testimony on the BNA website about a woman who had carried to term and had a stillbirth. She talked about the beautiful moments she had growing and holding her baby and how she had no regrets. BNA offers this counter-culture, radically compassionate option for parents carrying to term.

Help with medical terminology, assistance with a birth plan and emotional support. I lost a lot of my family's support after our diagnosis and Tracy and Judy really filled a role in my life that I needed filled. They come from a place of love and sometimes just feeling loved helps get you through the difficult days.