

Archdiocesan Response to Sexual Abuse

The “Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People” provides a comprehensive framework for addressing allegations of sexual abuse and for creating safe environments in parishes and schools, and it directs all sexual abuse policies and procedures in the Archdiocese of Louisville. In August 2006, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops audited our diocese for the third time, and the Archdiocese of Louisville was found to be fully compliant with all elements of the Charter.

Prevention/Education –

- 2,539 employees and volunteers participated in safe environment programming, bringing the total trained to 13,038.
- The sexual abuse section of the archdiocesan web page was redesigned to allow users to more easily access useful information, especially about victim assistance, reporting and policies.
- Safe environment workshops and materials are now being offered in Spanish.
- Presentations and workshops on sexual abuse and related issues are offered to parishes and other organizations as requested.

Sexual Abuse Review Board –

- The Review Board reviews past and present cases and monitors the implementation of our sexual abuse policies.

Victim Assistance and Outreach –

- The victim assistance coordinator, Dr. Tom Robbins, meets and assists victims/survivors. He can be reached by calling 502/636-1044. The Archdiocese continues to offer counseling assistance to victims/survivors.

Priest Assignment and Status –

- All priests with a substantiated accusation of childhood sexual abuse have been removed from public ministry. All of the cases of priests with substantiated cases of childhood sexual abuse have been reported to and resolved by the Holy See.

Sexual Abuse Expenditures

We have pledged to be accountable for how funds are used to address sexual abuse. Here is a summary reflecting funds that the Archdiocese was committed to pay beginning July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007:

Counseling Fees for Victims/Survivors	\$ 13,746
Settlements/Support for Victims/Survivors	--
Legal Fees	7,666
Prevention/Education	13,466 ¹
Miscellaneous	369 ²
Removed Priests	<u>18,688</u> ³
TOTAL	\$53,935

¹ Includes direct costs for trainer stipends, printing, and facilities. Does not include archdiocesan staff payroll.

² Costs for laicization process.

³ Medical and housing costs for priests directed to lead life of prayer and penance. The sexual abuse figure cited in the audited financial statements does not include expenses for these priests. In the audited statements, this amount is classified in another expense category.