

REPORT ON MISSION: 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 September, 2008, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops audited our diocese for the fifth time and as was determined in each previous audit, the Archdiocese of Louisville was found to be fully compliant with all elements of the Charter with no required changes or recommendations for changes.

PREVENTION/EDUCATION

- 2,373 employees and volunteers participated in safe environment programming bringing the total trained to more than 20,100. Workshops continue to be offered each month throughout the Archdiocese.
- All parishes and schools were audited, and the Archdiocese created a comprehensive database that tracks criminal background records checks and verification of attendance at safe environment training sessions for all employees and volunteers who work with children and youth.
- Extensive information is online to provide information on child abuse prevention, resources for parents, safe environment programs, and other materials. See archlou.org/restoringtrust.
- 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 or emailing trobbs@archlou.org. The Archdiocese continues to offer counseling assistance and other support to victims/survivors.

COOPERATION WITH CIVIL AUTHORITIES

- Any report or suspicion of children abuse is reported immediately to civil authorities, and the Archdiocese cooperates fully with any investigation.

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.
- During the past year, one pastor was removed from ministry pending investigation after an adult came forward and reported being sexually abused as a teenager. The case is currently under investigation.

SEXUAL ABUSE EXPENDITURES

We have pledged to be accountable for the financial costs of sexual abuse. The following is a summary of funds expended from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009:

Counseling Fees and Support for Victims/Survivors	\$ 2,209
Legal Fees	\$ 676
Prevention/Education	\$ 16,041
TOTAL	\$18,926