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 October 2010, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops audited our diocese for the seventh 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

- 3,099 employees and volunteers participated in safe environment programming bringing the total trained to 25,130. Forty-four workshops were offered this past year and continue to be offered each month throughout the Archdiocese.
- All parishes and schools were audited and all updated the 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 trobbins@archlou.org. The Archdiocese continues to offer counseling assistance and other support to victims/survivors.

Cooperation with Civil Authorities

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

Priest Assignment and Status

In June 2011, Father James Schook, who was directed to a life of prayer and penance in 2010, was indicted on 7 felony charges involving minors, stemming from incidences that occurred in the 1970s and 1980s. As always, the Archdiocese will continue to work with law enforcement in efforts to address childhood sexual abuse.

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, 2010 to June 30, 2011:

Counseling Fees and	
Support for Victims/Survivors	\$ 15,500
Legal Fees	\$285
Prevention/Education	\$21,506
TOTAL	\$37,291