

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 of 2013, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops audited our Archdiocese for the tenth 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

2,892 employees and volunteers participated in 45 safe environment workshops during the past fiscal year. For more information, see www.archlou.org/safe.

The Archdiocese sent bulletin blurbs about sexual abuse to parishes and schools for Sexual Abuse Prevention Month in April.

All parishes and schools were audited and all updated the database that tracks criminal background records checks and verification of attendance at safe environment training sessions.

Extensive information is online about child abuse prevention, resources for parents, safe environment programs, and other materials. See www.archlou.org/restoringtrust.

Presentations and workshops on sexual abuse and related issues are offered to parishes and other organizations as requested.

Priest Assignment and Status —

On May 8, 2014, Archbishop Kurtz placed Reverend R. Joseph Hemmerle on administrative leave after an individual made a report of being sexually abused in the 1970s by Father Hemmerle. This accusation also was reported to the authorities and remains under investigation.

On May 31, 2014, Reverend James R. Schook received a 15-year sentence for the abuse of minors. In 2009, Fr. Schook was suspended from ministry after a victim reported to the Archdiocese that he had been abused by Fr. Schook during the 1970s, and the Archdiocese reported this accusation to the authorities. Several more victims came forward, a police investigation ensued, and in 2010 Archbishop Kurtz removed Fr. James Schook from all ministry and directed him to lead a life of prayer and penance. At this time, he is serving his sentence in the Kentucky State Reformatory.

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, Ms. Martine Siegel, RN, MSN, CNS, meets and assists victims. She can be reached by calling 502/636-1044 or emailing victimassistance@archlou.org.

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.

Sexual Abuse Expenditures

We pledge to be accountable for the financial costs of sexual abuse. The following summarizes funds expended from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014:

Counseling Fees and Support for Victims/Survivors	\$ 6,089
Prevention/Education	<u>\$21,183</u>
TOTAL	\$27,272