

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. In September of 2015, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops audited the Archdiocese for the 12th time, and the Archdiocese of Louisville was found to be compliant with all elements of *the Charter*, with no required changes or recommendations for changes.

Prevention/Education

- 3,354 employees and volunteers participated in 52 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 school children in the Archdiocese participate in various approved training programs, such as *Speak up Be Safe*, *Theology of the Body*, and other religious education curriculum.
- The *Honor Thy Children* Newsletter goes out monthly to all schools and parishes.
- The Archdiocese chose a safe environment curriculum (*Safe Sheep*) for parish religious education programs that will be implemented during the 2016-2017 school year.
- Extensive information is online about child abuse prevention, resources for parents, safe environment programs, and other materials. See www.archlou.org/restoringtrust.

Priest Assignment and Status

- Father Joseph Hemmerle, who was placed on administrative leave by Archbishop Kurtz on May 14, 2014, after an individual reported being sexually abused by Father Hemmerle in the 1970s, was arrested on September 8, 2014 and awaits a criminal trial for these charges.
- In August of 2015, Archbishop Kurtz placed Father Stephen Pohl on administrative leave after the Cyber Crimes Unit of the FBI executed a search warrant of his property to determine if photos that he took or possessed included child pornography. On August 21, Father Pohl was arrested on federal charges of accessing child pornography, and he was sentenced to 33 months in federal prison in March of 2016.

Sexual Abuse Review Board

- The Review Board reviews 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

- Reports or suspicion of child abuse are relayed immediately to civil authorities, and the Archdiocese cooperates fully with any investigation. Call 1-877-597-2331 to report child abuse to the police.

Sexual Abuse Expenditures

The following summarizes expenditures from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016:

Counseling Fees and Support for Victims/Survivors	\$ 22,083
Legal Expense	\$ 4,309
Sexual Abuse Prevention/Education	\$ 128,785
TOTAL	\$ 155,177