



Honor Thy Children

Archdiocese of Louisville continuing education for the awareness and prevention of child abuse

SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAININGS RESUME ON A LIMITED BASIS

As we work our way through a challenging 2020 and COVID 19 pandemic, Safe Environment Trainings successfully ramped back up at the end of June and continued throughout the month of July. More are being scheduled in the coming months. See page 2 for the latest scheduled trainings.

Any employee within the Archdiocese and those who work regularly with children must complete the Archdiocese of Louisville's Safe Environment Training Course as well as have a background check not older than 5 years to

remain in compliance with the USCCB's Charter For the Protection of Children and Young People.

The Archdiocese of Louisville and it's parishes and schools are audited each year to ensure compliance.

Every third year an outside firm visits Louisville to perform an onsite audit to verify compliance.

Currently trainings are limited to 50 people as per governmental regulations.

This is on a first come first serve bases.

Trainings will be added or scaled back as warranted by demand.

If you are unsure of your attendance please check in with your parish/school safe environment coordinator. If you don't know who that is contact Scott Fitzgerald, Archdiocese of Louisville Coordinator of Safe Environment Services who can point you in the right direction.



Archdiocese of Louisville

Volume VII Issue I

July 2020

If you need support or someone to talk to:

- ☺ Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky or Indiana:
800.CHILDREN/
800.422.4453
www.pcaky.org
www.pcaain.org
- ☺ Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline
800.4.A.CHILD
800.422.4453
www.childhelp.org



Attendees from several Archdiocese of Louisville parishes and schools attended a July 16th "Socially Distanced" Safe Environment Training at Holy Spirit.

Are You Safe Environment Compliant?

Are you working regularly with children?

If so you must have attended an Archdiocese of Louisville Safe Environment Training.

You must also have a satisfactory background check not older than 5 years.

See your Safe Environment Coordinator today to verify your compliance!

WOMAN RECALLS SEXUAL ABUSE AS A CHILD, OFFERS HOPE

CREDIT CAITLIN KNUTE (KSHB-TV)

An accomplished violinist since the age of five, Elena Nanneman once planned to play professionally. But the 22 year old now is pursuing a different career path, shaped by the sexual abuse she said she experienced in her youth.

"When I was around 7 or 8, I started to be sexually abused by one of the elders in my grandfather's church," she said, "and that went on for maybe three or four years."

Nanneman said she remembers being scared to say anything - especially to her grandfather, the church pastor - partly because the elder was a family friend she loved and trusted.

"He would wait when everyone was downstairs and would come into my bedroom, and as he would be touching me inappropriately and assaulting me, he would drag his fingers across his lips and go, "Shh," she said.

From there, Nanneman said the advances became bolder, and the elder would assault her in public at church functions.

Too young to realize it wasn't her fault, Nanneman said it took an older girl in the church witnessing the abuse to come forward.

"She said, 'Has he done that to you before?' And I said, 'Yeah,'" Nanneman recalled. "And she said, "OK, we need to tell your mom."

Her mother was a social worker and her dad was a nurse, so they knew what steps to take. But, Nanneman said they never thought they'd have to report abuse involving their own child.

The family found the Sunflower House, a children's advocacy center that specializes in cases of physical and sexual abuse.

"Our staff are specially trained forensic interviewers, they're licensed social workers with a special expertise," said Michelle Herman, Sunflower House president and CEO, "And they are able to sit down with children and basically allow them in a very safe environment to tell the details of what happened to them."

At that point, the focus is on fact-finding, asking questions that could determine whether a case goes to court. It's a conversation that's recorded for possible evidence later.

It also offers a different experience for children from going to the police station to give a statement.

"Before there was a Sunflower House, that's pretty much what happened," Herman said. "And we know that children have already experienced enough trauma, so the real purpose of Sunflower House is to reduce that trauma as much as possible."

And, when the interview is over, the children are led into what's known as the teddy bear room - a place to pick out a stuffed animal. For Nanneman, that was a moment she remembers well.

"Yes, I remember this room exactly," she said, walking through the room years later. "I still have my lion I got from here. His name is Leo."



Leo the lion is the stuffed animal that Elena Nanneman selected as a child from the teddy bear room at Sunflower House.

Nanneman said that workers at Sunflower House made sure to convey that what she experienced

Cont page 3 "Recall"

UPCOMING TRAININGS

In accordance with local, state and federal guidance amid the Covid-19 outbreak, all Safe Environment Trainings are limited to 50 people.

Attendance is on a first come/ first served basis.

No one under 16 will be admitted to the training. This includes infants.

Masks are required and must be worn properly (over the nose and mouth) during the duration of the training

(We do have some extras, but participants are encouraged to bring their own)

8.3.20
St. Albert

8.10.20
St. Gregory (Cox's Creek)
(Limited to 50)

8.11.20
Incarnation

8.17.20
St. Gabriel

8.24.20
St. James (E-Town)

9.14.20
St. Dominic

9.15.20
Incarnation

9.17.20
St. Gabriel

9.28.20
St. Augustine-Lebanon

10.5.20
St. Gabriel

10.6.20
St. Margaret Mary

10.20.20
Incarnation

Keep checking
www.archlou.org/safe
for updates

WHEN (AND HOW) SHOULD I REPORT?

So you've discovered abuse or you think there may be abuse. According to the Commonwealth of Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services the following applies.

When there is reason to believe a child is being abused, neglected or a victim of human trafficking, concerned citizens should contact the child protection hotline at 877-597-2331. Staff will be available to take calls any time of the day or night and on weekends and holidays. If in doubt, it is preferable to call and discuss concerns. It is the job of centralized intake workers to help sort things out, such as whether a specific incident must be reported and to whom.

If the child appears to be in imminent danger or is in need of immediate protection, call 911 or the local police department. For example, a very young child or handicapped child who is left alone with no adult supervision needs immediate help. Police officers can remove a minor from a threatening environment in order to protect the child if the child is in danger of imminent death or serious physical injury or is being sexually abused and the custodian is

unable/unwilling to protect the child. KRS 620.040(5)(c). Remember you are required by law to report ANY suspected abuse. The law states that it is the duty of everyone who has reasonable cause to believe that a child is dependent, abused or neglected to report this information. KRS 620.030 states:
“(1) Any person who knows or has reasonable cause to believe that a child is neglected or abused shall immediately cause an oral or written report to be made to a local law enforcement agency or the Kentucky State Police; the Cabinet or its designated representative; the commonwealth's attorney or the county attorney; by telephone or otherwise.”



RECALL (CONT....)

was not her fault. "They were here to help me and they were going to believe me," she said. Ultimately, the family decided not to press charges. She said her parents wanted to, but in the end, they respected her wishes to leave the abuse in the past, something experts said is not uncommon for survivors. "And we know that, given the opportunity, children are resilient and can learn to cope with and get past that trauma," Herman said. Now an adult and recent college graduate, Nanneman credits Sun-

flower House with helping her move on with her life. "I choose to get up in the morning and I have to decide, am I going to let this beat me, or am I not?" Nanneman said. Today, she uses her experience to help others, sharing her story to advocate for victims' rights, speaking on behalf of Sunflower House, and working toward a law degree to one day represent victims. Meanwhile, Nanneman doesn't just wear her heart on her sleeve, she wears a reminder

of where she's been and where she's going on her wrist. "This teal ribbon is the sign of child abuse survivor," she said, "and I have a sunflower here for Sunflower House. I was in darkness and thanks to Sunflower House I was able to kind of come out of that, and kind of make a difference in the world."

MONTHLY SAFE ENVIRONMENT TIP

We now have a better idea of how the upcoming school year is going to play out amid COVID 19, but there are still details to be decided.

When we do get back to some sort of normalcy, there will most certainly be a rush on Safe Environment Trainings.

Don't wait until the last minute and jeopardize a chance to serve your parish or school because you didn't attend the required Safe Environment Training

This is also a good time to ensure your background check is current. You **MUST** have a background check not older than 5 years.

If you're an athletic director or volunteer coordinator, now is a perfect time to assess who within your circles is or isn't compliant and help bring them up to speed.

Should you have any questions, feel free to reach out to:

Scott Fitzgerald
Archdiocese of Louisville
Coordinator of Safe
Environment Services
502.471.2132 or via email
sfitzgerald@archlou.org

**Archdiocese of Louisville
Office of Safe Environment**

Martine Bacci Siegel, MSN, RN, CNS
Maloney Center
1200 South Shelby Street
Louisville, KY 40220

Phone: 502.636.1044
Fax: 502.634.3381
E-mail: msiegel@archlou.org

No child or adult should ever experience abuse by anyone, especially a church minister. We all have the right to be treated with dignity and to expect our church to reflect the goodness of God in all of its dealings.

We hope that this information is helpful to all in our communities who are working to prevent and respond to childhood sexual abuse. Please let us know if you need further assistance or information by calling or emailing our victim assistance coordinator, Ms. Martine Siegel, at 502/636-1044; victimassistance@archlou.org or the Pastoral Center at 502/585-3291.

We must heed God's call to care for the most vulnerable among us and to continue our efforts toward wholeness and health in dealing with sexual abuse.

HELP IS AVAILABLE

If you are experiencing difficult times and need some help, you can always reach out to Archdiocese of Louisville's Victim Assistance Coordinator Martine Siegel or one of the many local resources listed below.

Center for Women and Families

Provides services to victims of sexual abuse and violence in the Kentucky counties of Bullitt, Henry, Jefferson, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer, and Trimble. www.TheCenterOnline.org

- (844) 237-2331 Toll Free Crisis Line
- (502) 581-8222 Louisville Crisis Hotline
- (502) 581-7200 Business Line

Seven County Services

Treatment and counseling for victims and offenders. www.centerstone.org

- (502) 589-1100
- (800) 221-0446

Family & Children's Place

Broad-based family counseling program serving child and adult victims of violence and families in which a child has been sexually abused by an adult family member or adolescent. www.FamilyAndChildrensPlace.org

- (502) 893-3900

Treatment & Counseling for Victims

Broad-based family counseling program serving child and adult victims of violence and families in which a child has been sexually abused by an adult family member or adolescent. www.FamilyAndChildrensPlace.org

- UofL Peace Hospital (502) 451-3330
- The Brook Hospitals (502) 426-6380 (KMI) or (502) 896-0495 (Dupont)
- Norton Children's Hospital (Ackerly Unit) (502) 629-8000

Silverleaf Sexual Trauma Recovery Services

Provides services to victims of sexual abuse and rape, as well as to non-offending caregivers and families. Serving Breckinridge, Grayson, Hardin, Larue, Marion, Meade, Nelson, and Washington counties. www.silverleafky.org

- (270) 234-9236

