



Honor Thy Children

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

LEADERS PROCLAIM TEN-4 DAY IN OCTOBER

October saw local officials across Kentucky proclaim Sunday, October 4th "Ten-4 Day" organized by the "Face It Movement" an initiative led by Kosair Charities as a response to the public outcry against the increasing number of child abuse deaths in the Commonwealth. Ten-4 Day was created to bring awareness to recognizing bruising on young children and emphasize the importance of training adults on recognizing, reporting, and preventing child abuse. The Ten-4 rule states: for

children 4 years of age or younger, bruising on the Torso, Ears, or Neck, or any bruising anywhere on a baby not yet pulling up or taking steps, is a red flag for child abuse and may necessitate action, such as making a report to Child Protective Services. Kentucky has the highest rate in the nation of child victims of substantiated abuse and has double the national rate for child victims under age one. To help lower this number the Face It Movement and child abuse pediatricians around the state together

with experts at the University of Kentucky and University of Louisville trained community members in honor of TEN-4 Day this month. For more information on the TEN-4 rule and the possibility of future trainings feel free to contact the face it movement at (502) 895-8167 or faceitabuse.org Remember, all adults in Kentucky are mandated reporters of child abuse; reports can be made at www.reportitky.org or 1-877-KYSAFE1.

Archdiocese of Louisville

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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

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.

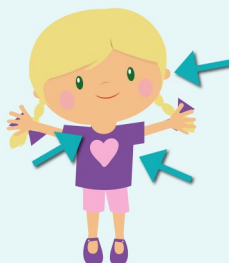
See your Safe Environment Coordinator today to verify your compliance!

TEN-4 Bruising Rule

Kids are kids, and sometimes they play in ways that result in minor cuts, scrapes, and bruises. These minor injuries are often found on bony areas of the body like knees, shins, elbows, and foreheads. However, there are other types of bruises that should be a red flag for possible abuse.

For children **4 years of age or younger**, bruising in these areas are cause for concern and need to be reported:

Torso
Ears
Neck
4 years or younger



Or any bruising anywhere, if the baby is not yet pulling up or taking steps.

How To Take Action:

- 1. Stay calm and conversational** if you notice bruising on a child.
- 2. Document what you see and hear ASAP.**
 - Include the color, shape, location, and size of the bruising.
 - Document what the child or parent says, along with any questions you ask.
 - It is okay to ask non-leading questions, such as:
 - What happened?
 - Where were you when it happened?
 - Did an adult see it happen?
 - Refrain from asking specific questions or jumping to conclusions. Professionals with appropriate training will handle the investigation.
- 3. Make the report.** Contact Child Protective Services by calling **1-877-KYSAFE1 or 1-877-597-2331**

[f /faceitabuse](https://www.facebook.com/faceitabuse) [@faceitabuse](https://twitter.com/faceitabuse)

faceitmovement.org [@faceitmovement](https://www.instagram.com/faceitmovement)



Pierce MC, Kozior K, Ashidge S, O'Hara J, Lorenz DJ. Bruising characteristics discriminating physical child abuse from accidental trauma. Pediatrics. 2020;125(1):e17-24. Epub Dec 7, 2019. <https://doi.org/10.1593/1549-5912.125146> [Epub ahead of print].

Siegel MS, Taylor JA, Feldman RW, et al. Bruises in infants and toddlers: those who don't crawl rarely bruise. Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med. 1999;153(4):399-403.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

How about another installment of "what would you do?" where you're presented with 3 different scenarios and you see if you made the right decision?

Read each of the scenarios below and see how you would react. Then flip to page 4 to see how you did. (Obviously some will apply when social distancing restrictions are lifted). Ready?

Scenario #1

As a science teacher and a pilot you've talked with 3 or 4 kids interested in aviation. You volunteer after school to give them a tour of a private airport, show them some airplanes and bring them back. The parents know you well and verbally tell you it's ok. Are you Safe Environment compliant?

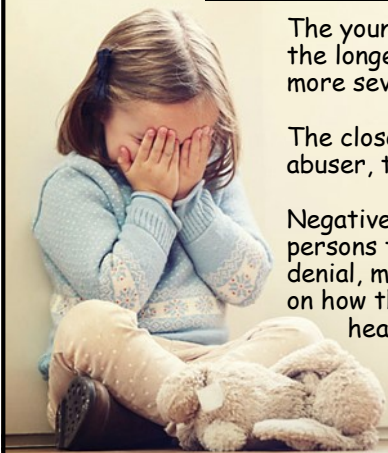
Scenario #2

You typically tutor children after school, but aren't able due to social distancing guidelines. You create a zoom channel instead and reach to advise them of the change. Are you Safe Environment compliant?

Scenario #3

You've just been recruited as a new coach at the school. You come from a strong coaching background, are certified on a number of levels and have taken multiple Safe Environment trainings in other dioceses. Additionally you've just completed a thorough background check through federal, state and local authorities in your last position. What do you do now?

HOW CHILDREN ARE AFFECTED BY SEXUAL ABUSE



The younger the age of the child at the onset the longer the duration of the sexual abuse, the more severe are the effects of sexual abuse.

The closer the relationship of the child to the abuser, the larger the impact on the child.

Negative and non-supportive reactions from the persons to whom children disclose (disbelief, denial, making excuses) cause negative effects on how the children respond, as well as on their healing process.

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)

11.12.20

St. Albert the Great

11.16.20

St. Francis Xavier
(Mt. Washington)

12.7.20

St. Gabriel

1.12.21

St. Albert The Great

1.19.21

St. Gabriel

Additional trainings are being scheduled into January, February and March and will be posted as well as sent to parish/school Safe Environment Coordinators once they are finalized.

Keep checking
www.archlou.org/safe
for updates



RISKS CHILDREN FACE WHEN DISCLOSING ABUSE

There are genuine risks to the child when she or he discloses, including the lack of protection for the child if he or she is not believed, or when removal of a child from an abusive situation does not take place in a timely fashion. Moreover, when children are protected and removed from the home, they feel punished, which serves to reinforce the shame and misplaced responsibility that the child feels for causing the abuse. To a child, being removed and placed with strangers (even with relatives) seems like punishment, further reinforcing the ideas that "I am bad," "I am to blame", and/or "I should have kept quiet." Furthermore, when children are removed from their home, they are taken from their community. They no longer participate in any youth activities, club outings, sporting competitions, and other extracurricular activities. This is experienced as additional punishment for their disclosure. These feelings are compounded when adults are angry and children are silenced from talking about the very matter that caused them to be pulled from their community. Another risk for the child is the probable loss of the relationship to the abuser. Children who are abused usually have mixed feelings about their abuser. The child hates the offending actions but



still cares for the person who is abusing him or her. There are cases where the abuser is the primary financial supporter of the family and disclosing may result in the family losing economic support. In such cases, the abused child often internalizes blame believing that "if I didn't tell, we wouldn't be in such a mess." Know that in general, a child who is being abused feels a desire to protect others in the home—including other siblings and the non-abusing parent. If the abusing parent gets removed, the child may internalize the responsibility for the pain that the non-abusing parent feels. Family members vary in their responses to a child's disclosure. They have varying degrees of believing and supporting the child for many reasons, including the fact that the abuser is most often a relative or family friend. Coming to terms with the idea that someone we know and respect could sexually abuse a child is difficult for people. To the child, this ambivalence feels like he or she is not being believed. It is not uncommon for some family members to reject the child's story and side with the abuser. This is particularly devastating to a child when a parent/guardian refuses to believe that the abuse actually happened.

TYPES OF DISCLOSURE

There are immediate and long-term disclosures. Immediate disclosure refers to a telling that occurs while the abuse is occurring. Know that there are times when abusers will stop offending a particular child because of the anticipated consequence to the abuser. Faced with being accused or "found out," abusers may change their behavior to protect themselves. Long-term disclosure refers to a telling that happens once the abusive interaction has ended. This includes situations in which an older adolescent or adult discloses that he or she was abused as a child. Although the individual may be out of harm's way, he or she will likely feel some emotional vulnerability that needs attention.

MONTHLY SAFE ENVIRONMENT TIP

Many times after trainings, people will disclose to trainers privately they have been abused or suspect someone they know is being abused.

One, it's important to remember that Kentucky is a mandatory reporting state. If you suspect someone is being abused you must report it.

This can be done by calling
1-877-KYSAFE1

Two, it's also important to know that the Archdiocese of Louisville is here to help. Should you have ANY questions about abuse both past and present feel free to reach out to

Martine Siegel
Archdiocese of Louisville
Victim Assistance Coordinator
502.693.1044 or via email
msiegel@archlou.org



The Archdiocese of Louisville can direct you to local resources who can help with counseling and recovery for victims of abuse.



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OF LOUISVILLE

www.archlou.org

**Archdiocese of Louisville
Office of Safe Environment**

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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.

HOW DID YOU DO?

Scenario #1

If you said "Yes, I got approval from the appropriate administrator AND I obtained written permission including a signed medical release form" you are correct. The code of conduct mandates that all activities for which you are responsible are to be approved in advance by the appropriate administrator. It further states permission slips should include the type, location, dates, and times of the activity and emergency contact numbers.

Scenario #2

Only if you had the zoom page approved and it is monitored by the appropriate administrator (pastor, principal or director). But that's not all, you must have informed parents about all social media communication utilized by the group/ministry prior to putting it in motion.

Scenario #3

If you said "I check www.archlou.org/safe and find the next Safe Environment Training and make plans to attend while at the same time I check with my school/parish safe environment coordinator to have a new background check run" you are correct. Because Archdiocese of Louisville specific policies and procedures are reviewed in our trainings we do not accept another diocese's safe environment training. Additionally anyone regularly working with children or paid staff must have a satisfactory background check run by the Archdiocese of Louisville not older than five years.

If it's been a while since you've attended a Safe Environment Training, consider attending a session to refresh yourself. A complete list can be found at www.archlou.org/safe