

THE SHEPHERD

Another summer has come and gone, our schools and parishes are once again filled with children! As we continue to elevate and improve all aspects of the Safe Environment Program, please ensure you are including the most recent materials while administering your programs in your parishes and schools. I look forward to another great year with you all and thank you for the work you do as we continue our mission;

PROMISE TO PROTECT PLEDGE TO HEAL.

Wendy

Please contact me with any questions you may have!
wendy.backes@salinadiocese.org



Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these” (Matthew 19:14).

All parishes and schools are reminded to place this announcement in their parish bulletins and/or school newsletters/websites quarterly, then provide the Safe Environment Office a copy for diocesan files. If you need to change the format, please contact the SE office.

BACK TO SCHOOL INTERNET SAFETY TIPS:



1. Be involved in your students assignments
2. Keep computer in open area
3. Set rules and warn about dangers
4. Monitor computer activity
5. Consider implementing parental controls

Computers and mobile devices can be helpful tools for children and teens to learn and grow in faith and fellowship. Unfortunately, the digital world is also full of unsafe and explicit content. You wouldn't hand a teen the car keys without first teaching them how to drive. The same should be true for using technology— teach them how to keep themselves and others safe while using it.

CMGConnect

Safety Coordinators, please log in weekly to your CMGConnect platform to ensure that all clergy, educators, employees, and volunteers (who minister with minors), have completed all safe environment requirements. Please make any necessary updates, including archiving those users who no longer minister in our diocese.



SAFE ENVIRONMENT GUIDELINES

Education & Screening

All clergy, religious, seminarians/persons in formation, employees, educators, as well as volunteers who minister with minors are required to complete a background check and safe environment training. For more information about safe environment compliance requirements, please contact your parish/school safety coordinator or visit www.salinadiocese.org

Reporting & Victim Assistance

Report allegations of the abuse of a minor to the Department of Children and Families
800.922.5330
KBI Crime Hotline/800.572.7463

If you suspect abuse of a minor by church or school personnel, in addition to contacting civil authorities, use one of the confidential diocesan reporting resources below:

Phone: 866.752.8855
Website: reportandprotect.com
Email: reportabuse@salinadiocese.org
Reports will be responded to promptly by the Victim Assistance Coordinator

To report an incident of sexual abuse and related misconduct by a Bishop or Religious Superior, currently, or in the past, the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service provides a confidential Hotline: 800.276.1562
Website: reportbishopabuse.org

The Diocese of Salina complies with Kansas laws regarding reporting suspected abuse to civil authorities and cooperates with civil authorities as they investigate reports of suspected abuse by all persons, including, but not limited to church personnel.

Any questions in regards to education, reporting, or victim assistance can be directed to the Safe Environment Office/ Diocese of Salina
785.827. 8746



FROM THE USCCB - 2023 Annual Report

The 2023 Annual Report on the implementation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People has been released. It describes the progress of Catholic dioceses/eparchies in implementing victim assistance and child protection policies and programs in the United States, particularly those found within the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. The Annual Report is based on an annual audit process, carried out between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023, by Stonebridge Business Partners. To read the full results of the report [click here](#).



September 2024 Shout - outs

During the month of September we recognized Bryce Woodall AND Rhonda Machin. Bryce currently serves as Safety Coordinator for Sacred Heart Junior/Senior High School in Salina and Rhonda at Manhattan Catholic School in Manhattan. Both safety coordinators have been diligently working to improve the processes with regards to compliance at each of their schools and their continued dedication and hard work is what stand out the most. We greatly appreciate all of Bryce and Rhonda's hard work and ALL they do especially as they continue to create a safe environment for all at their schools.



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