

REPORTING ABUSE

"It is very important that if anyone, whether you are a priest, teacher, or parent, etc., sees anything suspicious at all, please report it. Do not be afraid."
~Bishop Vincke

Report suspected allegations of the abuse or neglect of a minor to the Department of Children and Families
800-922-5330
KBI Crime Hotline
800-572-7463

Mandated reporters are required to report child abuse or neglect under the Kansas reporting law (K.S.A. 38-2223)

If you suspect abuse by church personnel, in addition to contacting civil authorities, contact the Diocese of Salina's VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR
Hotline: 866-752-8855
Website: www.reportandprotect.com
Email: reportabuse@salinadiocese.org

To report an incident of sexual abuse and related misconduct by a Bishop or Religious Superior currently, or in the past, Contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service
Hotline: 800-276-1562
Website: reportbishopabuse.org

CONTACT US

SAFE ENVIRONMENT OFFICE

785-827-8746
103 North Ninth Street
PO Box 980
Salina, KS 67402-0980



Wendy Backes
Safe Environment Program Coordinator
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785-827-8746



Reyna Banda-Torres
Victim Assistance Coordinator
reportabuse@salinadiocese.org
866-752-8855



Kim Hoelting
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785-342-0819

"THE FIRST OBLIGATION OF THE CHURCH WITH REGARD TO THE VICTIM IS HEALING AND RECONCILIATION."

- Charter for the Protection of Children & Young People, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

PROMISE TO PROTECT

PLEDGE TO HEAL

As a community of faith, we believe that the prevention of child abuse begins with each person. Increased awareness and willingness to take action are steps for every person to take to suppress abuse in our parishes, in our schools, in our communities, and in our families.



THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SALINA

Our diocese is committed to maintaining safe environments for children to learn, pray and grow. The Safe Environment Office supports our parishes and schools and maintains compliance of our diocese through our Safe Environment Program. All clergy and seminarians; all employees of the diocese; and schools and entities associated with the diocese; and all volunteers with regard to their contact with minors, must complete safe environment training. Along with adults, students enrolled in parish religious education programs and Catholic Schools will also participate in age appropriate safe environment training.

TRAINING PROGRAM FOR ADULTS

Adults will complete safe environment training through CMGConnect's on-line training platform. This training includes information regarding the nature of child abuse, how it is perpetrated, how to report, strategies for prevention, and a review of the diocesan policy and code of conduct.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK

Adults must pass a criminal background check through Selection.com. This background check is integrated through the CMGConnect portal. This check must be completed before you may begin employment, or volunteer with minors. This check must be renewed every five (5) years.

TRAINING PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS

The Diocese of Salina incorporates into the teaching curriculum in both schools and parishes, safe environment training for students in grades K-12. These lessons include information and instruction about God's love, relationships, personal space, boundaries, respect, lures, bullying, internet safety, as well as how to get help from a trusted adult.

"Pope Francis has made it clear that the Church must hold the protection of minors amongst her highest priorities."

-Fr. Fredrico Lombardi, SJ

THE CHARTER

Since 2002, the bishops of the United States have carried out their ministries to protect and heal in all dioceses through the implementation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.

The Charter directs action on the following matters: Outreach and healing to victims and survivors; prompt and effective responses to allegations of abuse; cooperation with public authorities; removal of offenders from ministry; safe environment training programs for clergy, employees, volunteers and children; background checks for all clergy, employees, and volunteers with regard to their contact with children, and an annual audit of diocese to ensure compliance with Charter guidelines.



WE ARE CALLED

The Church's mission to protect and heal stems from the Gospel: the life and teaching of Jesus Christ provide us with the perfect foundation for our efforts to create safe environments for children.

Here some ways you can help keep children safe:

- Develop appropriate and loving relationships with your children.
- Teach your children safe and healthy boundaries.
- Know who has access to your children.
- Learn the warning signs of abuse.
- Report abuse to appropriate authorities.

A Prayer for Protecting God's Children

Dear Lord,
We ask you to bless us your holy people. Open our hearts to Your call to be the "ears, eyes, and voice" of children and young people everywhere. Give us the vision and grace needed to fulfill the special commitments that each of us has made to making our homes, churches, schools, communities and world a safer place for all God's children.

Amen

www.catholicnh.org

