

OFFICE OF CHILD PROTECTION UPDATE



Diocese of Belleville

Volume 7, Issue 2

April-National Child Abuse Prevention Month



April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Included in this mailing is an article which is part of the resources available through the Office of Child and Youth Protection at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. I encourage you to take a look at the resources and utilize what you feel would be helpful at your parish, school or agency (http://www.usccb.org/ocyp/april_cap_month_2011.shtml) during the month of April and throughout the rest of the year.

You might include an article in an upcoming newsletter or as a bulletin insert, use parts of the liturgy guide during masses or maybe use some of the statistics in various communications. Be creative!!

Please share any ideas and implementation that you do with me so that I can share your efforts with others, as well as include it in the 2011 Audit. We can all make a difference, one idea or step at a time.

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We Are Called...

I encourage every location to use the guidelines set out in the Charter for the Protection of Youth and Young People and our Diocesan Child Protection Policy to see each for what they are, which are devices in place to protect the children and youth that we serve. We provide education to children in hopes that it will make them less vulnerable. We provide education to adults so they may join us in our efforts to stop child abuse from occurring. We have screening processes in place to make our children less accessible. These are by no means small efforts, but I feel that children and youth are worth that effort...do you?

I have included an article by Christy Schiller, Director of Religious Accreditation for Praesidium, Inc. regarding complacency. Many locations across the diocese are doing a phenomenal job in maintaining compliance with the Diocesan Child Protection Policy, but some are less diligent. Is this due to complacency? I am providing the following statistics and encourage you to assist with stopping child abuse by closing these gaps. If there are individuals at your location who are not compliant, please notify your pastor, principal or PLC as it is their duty to enforce the policy locally. This is difficult to do, but it is the right thing to do for children's safety.

- 397 active individuals need the Initial Child Protection Policy Training
- 786 active individuals need the 2010-2011 Refresher Course
- 2655 active individuals need the CANTS check or need to update their CANTS (updated every 2 years)
- 1429 active individuals need an application
- Approximately 1259 active individuals need a criminal background check or need to update their criminal background check (updated every 5 years)



Children's Educational Presentation



Thank you to the many PSR programs and schools who have scheduled the Children's Education Presentation for the 2010-2011 season. However, we still have 9 PSR programs and 1 school who have not scheduled the Children's Educational Presentation for the current year. We have reminded locations via emails and phone calls. Our next step will be to contact the pastors and principals. If you are one of the 10 locations, please schedule the presentation and let us know the date, even if you will not be having it until April or May. I know through our correspondence that some of you are working on it, please let me know if you are having difficulty. Once the agency has presented the presentation, please remember to send in the summary (Form 2).

As the location coordinator you may not be responsible for scheduling this program, but please check with your catechetical leader and principal to see if it has been scheduled. If not, please pass this portion onto them.

If parents aren't sure about the program, share the curriculums (found in the Procedure's Manual), so they can make an informed decision. It is a body safety program and is an important step in the prevention of child abuse!

Posting

You may recall in a memo dated July 10, 2003, it was requested to include the following statement in your parish bulletin once a month. Please continue this request and if you have a bulletin that you would like to share with me showing its inclusion, it would be great to show the auditors. The dates would need to be between July 1, 2010 and June 30, 2011. You can send them to me anytime.

SEXUAL ABUSE HOTLINE: Anyone wishing to report an allegation of sexual misconduct by a priest or other diocesan personnel please call the hotline: 800-640-3044.

Report Accuracy



Be sure to check your report for accuracy and notify us of any corrections:

- Is the listed position correct?
- Are all those on the list currently active?
- Is anyone missing?



CANTS prior to 6/31/2009 will need to be updated.

CI prior to 6/31/2006 will need to be updated.

Key to Report

SS#	If we have a Social Security Number on file, x's will appear in this column for confidentiality. If blank, we do not have a social security number on file.
Birthdat	Individuals date of birth
CANTS	Date DCFS cleared the individual as having "no priors"
Vol	Date the individual signed the volunteer application
Employ	Date the individual signed the employment application
CI	Date that a background check was completed
InitialPol	Date the individual attended the Child Protection Policy Training
09-10Refresh	Date the individual attended the 2009-2010 Refresher Course: Mandated Reporter
10-11Refresh	Date the individual completed the 2010-2011 Refresher Course: Professional Boundaries and Behaviors
Testimon	For religious men and women only; Date in which we received their testimonial
St	Individual's status (A=Active, I=Inactive, T=Terminated, U=Unknown, R=Retired, D=Deceased)
Position	Position the individual holds at your location (ie...volunteer, employee, coach, PSR educator, Youth Ministry Chair, educator, TEC, Quest, Luke 18 etc...)
Yellow	Individual is out of compliance-needs to update a CANTS or CI, Initial Training is missing
Gray	Individual is still compliant, but will need to update the CANTS or CI within 3 months.

Tidbits



If you have completed the Children's Educational Presentation, please be sure to send in the Children's Educational Component Training Dates and Summary (Form 2).

16556 individuals have gone through the Initial Child Protection Policy Training!

3769 individuals have completed the 2010-2011 Refresher Course: Professional Boundaries and Behaviors!

Initial Child Protection Policy Trainings – Many are scheduled throughout the diocese, see diocesan website under Diocesan Events.

All forms should be sent and processed through the Office of Child Protection.

All checks should be payable to the Diocese of Belleville.