Maintaining Compliance with the Charter

For Children All children and youth in grades K4 through 12, both in day school and religious education, are required to receive safe environment education. This is NOT sex education. Because of the value and dignity of human life, it is important that we teach children and youth about personal safety, awareness and boundaries. As God’s children, we deserve love and respect.

For Adults The following requirements must be met prior to employment or volunteer service:

- Safe environment education for all clergy and religious (men and women), paid personnel and volunteers.
- State and national background checks for all clergy and religious, paid personnel and volunteers, repeated at least every five years.
- All clergy and religious, paid personnel and volunteers must read and sign a form acknowledging they have received and read the Code of Ethical Standards for Church Leaders.
- All clergy and religious, paid personnel and volunteers must receive and read a copy of the Mandatory Reporting Responsibilities.

The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People

The Charter is a comprehensive set of procedures established by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in June 2002 for addressing allegations of sexual abuse of minors by Catholic clergy. The Charter also includes guidelines for reconciliation, healing, accountability and prevention of future acts of abuse.

The Charter’s policies and procedures were reviewed and revised in 2011.

ARTICLE 12

“Dioceses will establish ‘safe environment’ programs. They will cooperate with parents, civil authorities, educators and community organizations to provide education and training for children, youth, parents, ministers, educators and others about ways to make and maintain a safe environment for children. Dioceses will make clear to clergy and members of the community the standards of conduct for clergy and other persons in positions of trust with regard to sexual abuse.”

ARTICLE 13

“Dioceses are to evaluate the background of all incardinated and non-incardinated priests and deacons who are engaged in ecclesiastical ministry in the diocese and of all diocesan and parish/school or other paid personnel and volunteers.”

*Volunteers are defined as those individuals who have regular contact with children and young people.
Keeping Children Safe from Sexual Abuse Policies and Practices of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee makes children's safety a priority. The Church is different today because of the courage of victims/survivors who have come forward, told their painful stories and worked diligently to implement initiatives designed to protect children today.

For More Information
Learn more about Safeguarding All of God's Children in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee by visiting our Web site: www.archmil.org/offices/safeguarding

Obtain a full copy of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People from the USCCB's Web site: www.usccb.org/ocyp/charter.pdf