

Diocese of Dallas
Safe Environment Program for Schools and
Parishes

St. Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Community
Adult Continuing Education

Option 8
Warning Signs of Abuse and How to Report It
2009

Please note:

This is a training renewal option. If you have not already attended the Family of Faith Safe Environment Training session held at the parish center or another parish you must attend the session. You can then use this option to renew for next year. Please refer to our bulletin or our web site www.stgabriel.org for session dates and times.

Instructions

1. Read this document.
2. Go to web site
http://helpguide.org/mental/child_abuse_physical_emotional_sexual_neglect.htm
and read the article
3. Fill out the self assessment form at the end of this document.
4. Fill out and sign the signature form. (In order to receive credit, be sure to print your name **legibly**.)
5. Return the self assessment and signature forms to the church office (mail or drop off).

By doing so, you will have fulfilled your annual training requirement that is mandated by our parish's Safe Environment Program.

St. Gabriel's is a Stewardship parish. This program is made possible by the generous stewardship contributions of many parishioners. Our parish relies on these contributions, given in thankful response to God's generosity, to fund parish ministries and activities like this.

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Note to Volunteers and Employees

As you know, you previously completed the initial core training requirements of our Safe Environment Program when you attended an awareness session as part of being screened and cleared for service. This packet provides you with additional information related to child safety and protection issues, as well as expands upon and/or updates information that you learned about or received when you attended the Safe Environment Awareness session.

Our Mandate

As you learned when you attended the awareness session, our Diocese and parish have each accepted that as Christian adults, we all have a moral and legal responsibility and are entrusted by God with the spiritual, emotional, and physical well-being of children. As they participate in activities within or sponsored by our Diocese and parish, it is our responsibility and commitment to provide an environment that is safe and nurturing.

Our Parish's Commitment

We are committed to assuring that all clergy, employees, and volunteers who serve in our church or school receive appropriate ongoing training to help them meet their responsibilities for providing an environment that is safe for children. We hope you will find this information helpful for increasing your knowledge and awareness of these issues. If there is anything in these materials about which you have questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact the Safety Officer at 972-542-7170 or via email at pscott@stgabriel.org.

Mandate to report under the policy of the Diocese of Dallas:

The Diocese, through its schools, institutions, agencies, and organizations, has numerous daily contacts with many children. It is, therefore, most important that all persons responsible for the care of children, particularly all staff members of parishes, schools, and agencies in the Diocese of Dallas, protect the rights of children and be alert to the possibility for child abuse. It is the policy of the Diocese of Dallas not only to fulfill the reporting law but to cooperate fully with the investigating civil authorities. Individuals must report incident or suspicions of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment. Situations involving minor children must be reported to Texas Child Protection Services at 1-800-252-5400 or in emergency to the appropriate police authority, usually by calling 911. Individuals with knowledge about violations of Diocesan policy should call the Chancellor or the Risk Manager of the Diocese at 214-528-2240, or they may write to them at the Diocese of Dallas, P.O. Box 190507, Dallas, TX 75219.

Warning Signs of Abuse and How to Report It Self Assessment Form

Name _____

1. What is the most common type of child abuse?
Physical ____ Emotional ____ Neglect ____
2. One of every three abused or neglected children will grow up to become an abusive parent. True ____ False ____
3. Which of the following are signs of online sexual abuse?
 - € Your child spends large amounts of time online, especially at night, and may turn the computer monitor off or quickly change the screen on the monitor when you come into the room.
 - € You find pornography on your child's computer.
 - € Your child receives phone calls or mail from people you don't know, or makes calls to numbers that you don't recognize.
 - € Your child becomes withdrawn from the family.
 - € All of above.
4. You really shouldn't get involved if you see what you think might be abuse in a public place. True ____ False ____
5. If a child comes to you and says he or she has been abused you should question them extensively and not believe them until you can get proof. True ____ False ____
6. What number should you call if a child tells you they are being abused?

7. If someone tells you they are being abused you should tell them to wait a minute and go get someone who might know better how to deal with the situation. True ____ False ____

We sincerely thank all those who share their time and talents as employees of and/or volunteers in the programs and activities of St. Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Community

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Signature Form

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle Initial _____

SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM
ANNUAL TRAINING UPDATE
SIGNATURE FORM

Please print legibly or you may not receive credit. Please print first, middle (name or initial), and last name. Also include a suffix (e.g. Jr., Sr., etc.), if applicable.

Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Email _____

Please print email carefully

Which ministry are you participating in? _____
(Youth, ECP, Clusters, EMS, Hospitality, HCFF, Parish Center, etc.)

I have read the materials provided to me in the Safe Environment Program Training Update

I filled out the "Self Assessment Form" for option 8 and it is attached to this form.

I understand that by doing so I have met the annual training requirements under our parish's Safe Environment Program. If there is anything I do not understand or if I have any questions about anything I read in these materials I will contact the Safety Officer at the church office 972-542-7170.

My Signature: _____ Date: _____

The date 12-months from today's date is _____. I know I must complete my next annual training no later than this date if I wish to remain eligible to serve.

**Please drop this form and assessment off at or mail it to your church office,
Attention Safety Officer**

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