

VIRTUS Protecting God's Children Required Training

https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/19056/reg_2.cfm?theme=0

As Church leaders, we believe that the prevention of child sexual abuse must begin with each responsible adult. Because of your position, you are at the forefront of interaction with the children and youth of our diocese. As such, it is imperative that you and the people in your care are trained not only to recognize potential child sexual abuse but also how to respond appropriately to abuse when it is suspected and report it promptly.

A description of the three component training course is provided below:

1. Background check: During this process, each new person requiring online training will provide personal information for a criminal background check, which will be run on each employee or volunteer and is accomplished within the initial registration of the VIRTUS online program. For the sake of the necessary criminal background check, the system will ask for a social security number from the employee/volunteer. This is required to run the background check. The background check is then run based on the rest of the information the employee/volunteer provided.
2. Diocesan Policy Book and Code of Conduct: Read our Diocesan Policy Book and Code of Conduct online, which each new employee and volunteer are required to read and electronically acknowledge. This can be accomplished within the initial registration of the VIRTUS online program.
3. Complete Safe Environment training: After completing the registration process, background check portion and acknowledgment of the diocesan policy book and code of conduct, view the 60-minute online child protection video and answer the comprehension questions.

Remember, Safe Environment Training must be completed by any adult who anticipates working with children or youth in our diocese, and it must be completed before employment or volunteering. Again, this online version of the VIRTUS program replaces the former live version of the Safe Environment Program offered throughout our diocese. New incoming volunteers and employees or those individuals who have never been trained in the live program can now complete their Safe Environment training in the privacy of their homes and at their leisure.

Questions or concerns: please contact Julie Zenz at (608) 723-9091