# KEEPING OUR YOUTH AND CHILDREN SAFE

The Diocese of Lake Charles recognizes the God-given dignity of every human being and condemns all forms of abuse or neglect of people of all ages. In regard specifically to sexual abuse of minors, it is the policy of the Diocese of Lake Charles to work with parents, civil authorities, educators, and various organizations to make and maintain a safe environment for our children and youth.

More info can be found in the diocesan policies that can be obtained at the Office of Child and Youth Protection or at your local Safe Environment coordinator.

Policy 702 - A Safe Environment for the protection of children and young people

Policy 703 - Code of Professional Conduct for all who have contact with minors

Appendix 703 - Summary of Louisiana Child Abuse or Neglect Reporting Laws

# Office of Child and

#### Office of Child and Youth Protection

Diocese of Lake Charles 1201 Ryan Street Lake Charles, LA 70601 <u>www.lcdiocese.org</u>

337-439-7400 x220 andrea.ward@lcdiocese.org

# **DIOCESAN PERSONNEL**

Reverend Monsignor Daniel Torres Vicar General 1201 Ryan Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601 337-439-7400

Andrea Ward Safe Environment Coordinator Office of Youth and Child Protection 1201 Ryan Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601 337-439-7400 x220



### OBLIGATION TO REPORT

Any person who has actual knowledge of or who has reasonable cause to suspect an incident of abuse of a minor must follow all applicable laws for reporting such instances.

After reporting to local law enforcement or to the Louisiana Department of Child Protection Services, immediately report to the vicar general if the abuse occurred by a priest, deacon, or individual representing the Catholic Church.

Reverend Monsignor Daniel Torres Vicar General

Office Hours (8:30am – 4:30pm) 337-439-7400

After Office Hours 337-477-1236

#### CIVIL SHERIFF'S OFFICES

Allen Parish Sheriff's Office 601 Court Street Oberlin, LA 70655 337-639-4353

Beauregard Parish Sheriff's Office 412 Bolivar Bishop Drive DeRidder, LA 70634 337-463-3281

Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office 5400 East Broad Street Lake Charles, LA 70615 337-491-3730

Cameron Parish Sheriff's Office 124 Recreation Center Lane Cameron, LA 70631 337-775-5111

Jeff Davis Parish Sheriff's Office 321 East Plaquemine Street Jennings, LA 70546 337-821-2115

## OFFICE OF CHILD PROTECTION

Child Protection can be contacted if one is not sure of a suspicion to discuss whether the observed behaviors need professional help. Before phoning, gather as much pertinent data as possible such as the child's general behavior, physical appearance, and problematic behavior.

#### LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES

855-4LA-KIDS (855-452-5437)

