

## Our History

Since 2002, the Catholic Church has done more to protect children than almost any other organization in the United States.

To learn more about the Office of Child and Youth Protection, visit [www.DIOBROCYP.org](http://www.DIOBROCYP.org).

We welcome you to join us in our local efforts to protect, prevent and heal.



## Office of Child and Youth Protection

Diocese of Baton Rouge  
(225) 242-0202  
[www.diobrocyp.org](http://www.diobrocyp.org)

24-Hour Victim Assistance Hotline:  
(225) 242-0250



## Diocese of Baton Rouge

OFFICE OF CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION

PROMISE TO **Protect**  
PLEDGE TO **Heal**

## Who Are We?

### OUR MISSION

It is the mission of the Office of Child and Youth Protection to support diocesan parishes and schools in creating safe environments for the children entrusted to our care.

Qualified Child Protection Site Coordinators have been appointed in every church, school, and diocesan youth-serving organization. We work directly with Clergy, Lay Administrators and Child Protection Site Coordinators to create programs, policies, procedures and best practices designed to ensure the welfare and safety of the children enrolled in diocesan programs.

Since 2002, the Catholic Church has equipped over 5 million children with age-appropriate safety skills to help them recognize and report abusive behavior. Background checks are conducted on Church personnel who have contact with children. All dioceses have Codes of Conduct spelling out what is acceptable behavior.

The Catholic Church is working hard to protect children. Much has been done but more needs to be done. Until child sexual abuse is no longer a part of society, the Church will continue its efforts to stop it.

## A Safe Environment

### THE PROGRAMS

Mandatory training for Child Protection Site Coordinators

Safety training for all children enrolled in diocesan programs

Safety training for all adults working with children in the diocese

Strict policies and procedures for screening applicants who work with children in the diocese

A Code of Conduct for adults working with minors

Annual audits measuring the degree of compliance with the program

Protocol for reporting the sexual abuse of a minor by a member of the clergy, an employee, or a volunteer of the diocese

Immediate outreach to anyone who has been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy, an employee, or a volunteer of the diocese

A Victim Assistance Coordinator available daily and on-call after regular office hours

## How Can You Help?

### SUPPORT THE SAFE ENVIRONMENT

You can support your local safe environment program when you comply fully with the Child Protection process. Any volunteer or employee working in a position subject to the safe environment requirements is asked to fill out a volunteer application, submit to the criminal background screen, read and sign the diocesan Code of Ethics, and become certified in the child safety training program for adults.

### REPORT ABUSE

It is our desire to reach out to any individual who has been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy, an employee, or a volunteer of the diocese. It is imperative to report abuse to civil authorities right away. The Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Diocese of Baton Rouge should be contacted on the 24-Hour Victim Assistance Hotline: (225) 242-0250.

### WHO IS MY CHILD PROTECTION SITE COORDINATOR?

You can find contact information for the Child Protection Site Coordinator of the church or school in which you serve by logging on to the Office of Child and Youth Protection Web Site: [www.diobrocyp.org](http://www.diobrocyp.org).