

Report on the Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program

April 2019

Introduction

On February 14, 2018, Ash Wednesday, Bishop Robert J. Cunningham announced the establishment of the Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program (IRCP) in an effort to offer reparation, promote reconciliation, and further healing to those individuals who have been sexually abused by clergy in the Diocese of Syracuse.

The diocesan response to past clergy child sexual abuse

2002-present day



Comprehensive Child and Youth Protection Policy

applies to all clergy, religious, employees, and volunteers whose ministry puts them in regular contact with children, young people, and vulnerable adults.



Safe Environment Program

requires training, education, and criminal background checks. The program also includes a Code of Conduct that must be followed by all clergy, religious, employees, and volunteers. Also requires prevention/educational programs for children in Faith Formation & Catholic Schools.



Office of Victim Assistance

to provide support and services to individuals who may have been sexually abused by a member of the clergy or the diocese.



Memorandum of Understanding

with the District Attorneys of the seven counties of the diocese which states that all allegations will be reported to the appropriate District Attorney before the diocese begins its canonical (Church law) process.



Diocesan Review Board

made up of well-qualified lay professionals and a member of the clergy to oversee investigations into allegations of clergy sexual abuse once the District Attorney's office completes its review.

February 14, 2018

Bishop Cunningham announced the establishment of the Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program (IRCP)

December 3, 2018

Bishop Cunningham released the names of those clergy with a credible allegation of sexual abuse of a minor

April 2019

Diocese releases report on the Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program (IRCP)

The results of the program are as follows:

- 88 Total number of claims
- 79 Total number of claims resolved
- 3 Number of ineligible
- 4 Number of non-responses
- 2 Number of those who declined

Compensation costs: \$10,922,500
 Administrative costs: \$1,570,593
Total costs: \$12,493,093

How was the IRCP funded?

The cost of the program was paid from the Diocese of Syracuse's self-insurance general liability program. Beyond the insurance fund, the diocese did not use monies given by faithful to support parishes, schools, the HOPE Appeal, the Foundation, the Cathedral Restoration Fund, Catholic Charities, or any other charitable fund.

To view the full report, visit bit.ly/syracuseircp

