

## *Office of Victim Assistance*

The diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator provides assistance, pastoral care, and support to individuals who come forward with a formal complaint of sexual exploitation by a representative of the Diocese.

### **Who can I call with a report or a concern of abuse?**

If a minor or vulnerable adult is an immediate danger, call **911**.

To report known or suspected neglect or abuse of a *minor*, call the New York State Child Abuse Hotline: 1.800.342.3720.

To report known or suspected neglect or abuse of a *vulnerable adult*, call the Vulnerable Persons Hotline at 1.800.373.2122.

If 911 and/or the Child Abuse/Vulnerable Adult hotline has been called, inform the Diocesan Assistance Coordinator at 315.470.1465 who will initiate diocesan procedures.

## *Contact*

### **Diocesan Safe Environment Program Coordinator**

Telephone: 315.470.1421

Fax: 315.478.4619

Email:

[safeenvironment@syrdio.org](mailto:safeenvironment@syrdio.org)

### **Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator**

Phone: 315.470.1465

Fax: 315.478.4619

Email:

[safeenvironment@syrdio.org](mailto:safeenvironment@syrdio.org)



Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse  
240 E. Onondaga Street  
Syracuse NY 13202  
[www.syrdio.org](http://www.syrdio.org)

ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF SYRACUSE



**Offices of  
Safe Environment  
&  
Victim Assistance**

## ***Office of Safe Environment***

All children, young people, and vulnerable adults have the right to be safe and protected from harm in all environments. The Diocese of Syracuse embraces this right and promotes that protection by taking steps to create safe environments to prevent the sexual abuse of children, young people, and vulnerable adults.



To accomplish this:

- **All** clergy;
- **All** members of religious orders;
- **All** parish and diocesan employees, including those who have no contact with children or young people;
- **All** volunteers whose ministry or role places them in regular contact with children, young people, or vulnerable adults.

are **required** to attend Safe Environment training per the diocesan Child and Youth Protection Policy.

### **What is the initial Safe Environment training?**

The one-time initial Safe Environment training, “Protecting God’s Children” training (VIRTUS) is on the prevention of child sexual abuse.

To complete the training, participants must pass a criminal background check.

### **When do I need to attend?**

Completion of the initial Safe Environment training session is required within **60 days** of assumption of duties, employment, or volunteering per diocesan policy.

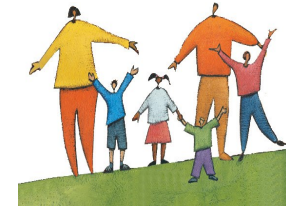
If Safe Environment training was previously completed in another diocese, contact the Safe Environment Office for further instruction.

### **Where may I find the initial Safe Environment training schedule?**

“Protecting God’s Children” sessions are held regularly throughout our diocese. To view the schedule and register, go to:  
[www.syracusediocese.org/safe-environment/training-for-adults/](http://www.syracusediocese.org/safe-environment/training-for-adults/)

### **Can youth attend a “Protecting God’s Children” session?**

Although not required to attend, youths ages of 16 and 17 years old may attend with parental permission.



### **What is the recertification training?**

The diocesan Child and Youth Protection Policy requires Safe Environment re-certification training every five (5) years.

### **Where may I find the recertification training schedule?**

“Entrusted to Protect, Dedicated to Restore” recertification sessions are offered throughout the diocese. To view the schedule and register according to the instructions listed, go to:  
[www.syracusediocese.org/safe-environment/training-for-adults/re-certification-training/](http://www.syracusediocese.org/safe-environment/training-for-adults/re-certification-training/)