

# “Safe Environment Program Did You Know...”

## Did You Know...

- Criminal Background Checks are conducted on every priest, deacon, parish director, employee, and volunteer working with minors in active ministry in parishes and schools in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.
- In 2020 in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, over 70 Safe Environment Education Sessions were conducted with over 1,800 adults trained in identifying signs of abuse and neglect, over 3,800 criminal background checks were conducted on clergy, employees, and volunteers, and over 50,000 children were trained in Safe Environment topics.
- All clergy, employees and volunteers are instructed to contact local law enforcement or Child Protective Services immediately if they are made aware of a child being sexually abused. All bishops, priests, deacons lay parish/school staffs, and volunteers are required to follow the mandatory reporting laws of the State of Wisconsin.
- All seminarians in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee undergo criminal background checks, Safe Environment Education training in child abuse prevention, psychological evaluation, classes and workshops on human sexuality, and mandatory reporter training.
- The Archdiocese of Milwaukee has a Victim Assistance Coordinator that has assists survivors of sexual abuse to navigate through the process of reporting abuse and receiving counselling services. The Victim Assistance Coordinator can be reached at (414) 758-2232.
- No priest or deacon with a substantiated allegation of sexual abuse of a minor can or will ever serve as a priest or deacon in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.
- In the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, a Diocesan Review Board reviews allegations against clergy involving abuse of a minor and helps hold our diocese accountable.

