

To Ensure

the Accountability of Our Procedures



The Bishops approved

- An Office for Child and Youth Protection to assist dioceses/eparchies in implementing “safe environment” programs and to produce an annual public report on the progress made in implementing the Charter standards.
- A National Review Board to assist and monitor the Office and approve the annual report on the implementation of the Charter before the report is submitted to the President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and published.
- Two studies to be commissioned by the National Review Board to help understand the problem of child sexual abuse by clergy more fully and to enhance the effectiveness of their response.
- A restructured Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse to include representation from all the episcopal regions into which the membership of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops is divided.

In addition, the bishops asked their Conference President to inform the Holy See of the Charter to indicate the manner in which the bishops, together with the entire Church in the United States, intend to address the crisis.