Key milestones in STRENGTHENING CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION within the Church











February 2002

Belleville Bishop Wilton D. Gregory, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), issues a formal statement, expressing "profound sorrow that some of our priests were responsible for this abuse under our watch."

The National Review Board, an expert lay advisory board to the bishops, holds its first meeting.

March 2003

An independent audit of all dioceses is conducted to assess implementation of the *Charter*.

March 2011

Release of the study, The Causes and Context of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Catholic Priests in the United States, conducted by John Jay College.

ine 2015

Pope Francis creates a tribunal for bishop negligence in clergy sexual abuse cases.





June 2002



The Charter for the

Protection of Children

adopted by the USCCB;

Norms are also adopted.

and Young People is

canonical Essential

February 2003

Safe environment guidelines require all clerics, employees and volunteers who work with children to be trained on how to prevent and report child sexual abuse.

April 2008

Pope Benedict XVI meets with victims of abuse in Washington, D.C.



The Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors is formed by Pope Francis.







