



Child Abuse Prevention Empowerment (CAPE)

CAPE is the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection's online learning course, specifically designed for Safe Environment Coordinators, Victim Assistance Coordinators, and other diocesan staff specializing in child and youth protection. Eventually, the course will be tri-level, but initial Fall 2021 registration is only for Level 1, the "Basic Level."

- In this self-paced Basic Level participants will explore documents and resources essential to abuse prevention in the American Catholic Church as well as examine what policies and procedures are in place in their own diocese/eparchy to protect the vulnerable.
- Session 1 begins September 22, 2021
- Registration Deadline is September 17, 2021. Register [here](#).
- Registration fee is \$100 a person to be paid by paper check (details on registration link).

Basic Level

Modules

1. **How did we get here?** Review the history of clerical sex abuse in the Church and explore the founding documents upon which diocesan policies are based.
2. **A Culture of Protection:** Take a deep dive into the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*.
3. **Working Together:** Understand the national Church structure and how these resources enhance the implementation at the local level. Identify other diocesan departments that are instrumental in establishing a strong program.
4. **Our Pledge to Heal:** Explore the qualities of a victim centered response.
5. **Accountability:** In depth examination of the Annual Report and Charter Audit.
6. **Ongoing Research & Collaboration:** Examine current research and trends in the field of child sexual abuse.
7. **Our Boards:** Analyze the multiple functions of a diocesan review board and identify key elements.

Learning Objectives

1. Participants will gain/enhance knowledge regarding structure of child and youth protection in the Catholic Church in the United States.
2. Participants will obtain detailed knowledge of own diocesan child and youth protection policies.
3. Participants will understand the USCCB's Annual audit, the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection's work with independent auditing firm, and CARA.
4. Participants will engage with colleagues throughout the country to exchange ideas/strategies.