

# SAFE ENVIRONMENT NEWS



## January and February SEC "To Do" List

- INSERT CODE OF CONDUCT INFORMATION (BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT #4) IN YOUR BULLETIN OR NEWSLETTER
- CHECK THE SAFE ENVIRONMENT DATABASE AND MAKE SURE ALL PENDING ARE RESOLVED
- CHECK WITH GROUPS AND SPORTS TEAMS TO MAKE SURE ALL ADULTS ARE IN THE SED AND UP-TO-DATE

## Coming up in 2022

### CHARTER FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN TURNS 20!

As you know, the Diocese of Manchester released a Special Report this month highlighting the many safe environment initiatives undertaken here in New Hampshire over the past twenty years. As we look forward to the upcoming year, we recognize that June will mark the 20th anniversary of the *Charter for the Protection of Children*. The Charter was a pledge by the U.S. bishops to provide compassionate response to victims of abuse and implement policies and training programs dedicated to preventing the sexual abuse of minors in the Church.

We have made many strides over the past 20 years, but please be assured that our work will continue. REMEMBER: about 1 in 7 children is sexually abused in their lifetime. This is a horrible statistic, but we can help change it! Vigilance is key. We need to continue teaching adults about appropriate boundaries; the warning signs of abuse and how to report suspicions; conducting timely background checks on all employees and volunteers who work with minors; teaching children about in-person and online dangers; and adhering to all of our policies.

Thank you for your dedication to our safe environment initiatives over these past 20 years. Your work makes a difference in children's lives!

## PREVENT & RESPOND TO CYBERBULLYING

**Think before posting**

ASK YOURSELF:  
Is this kind?  
Would I want my parents/teachers to see it?  
What would Jesus do?

**Don't forward or 'like' mean messages or pictures**

it makes the problem worse and you can't take it back

**Speak up**

if you see something mean online, tell a teacher, parent, or trusted adult

**Follow the Golden Rule**

treat others as you would want to be treated

encourage your friends to do the right thing

**WHERE DOES IT HAPPEN?**

Cyberbullying takes place online through social media, messaging apps, chat rooms, texting, gaming, etc. It is hard to get away from since it can happen 24/7.

**CYBERBULLYING** is bullying that takes place online. It's hard for kids to get away from because they are so connected to their devices, and unlike in-person bullying, it can take place 24/7. We have a new infographic handout about this issue, shown to the left. The graphic has been posted to our website and can be downloaded [here](#).

## Suicide Prevention

Our training provider, Catholic Mutual Group (CMG), has created a new training for adults about suicide prevention. Upon the recommendation of the Safe Environment Council, this training is now listed as an optional training on the CMG Safe Haven site and a direct link is also posted on the *Resources for Parents and Concerned Adults* web page of the diocesan website.

## Reminders

**FINGERPRINTING** for school staff is currently being scheduled through the State of NH by calling (603) 223-3867. All employees of Catholic schools are required to be fingerprinted and it must be completed within 30 days of hire!

**BOY SCOUT CHARTERS:** If your parish sponsors a troop, be sure to get a copy of the Charter. Charters are typically updated in December of each year and list the names of all adult volunteers..

**MONTHLY DROP-INS:** We are continuing to host virtual drop-in meetings on the second Tuesday of each month from 11:30-noon. The next meeting is on February 8. [JOIN HERE](#).

## Meet Eve Mongeau



**Eve displays the plaque that was awarded to the Diocese of Manchester by the USCCB for our participation in the High Reliability Organization program as an alpha site.**

If you have ever contacted the Safe Environment Office, chances are you have interacted with Eve. Eve's responsibilities include processing background checks, checking compliance, and doing all of our database entry. She also conducts site visits on occasion and is an Excel expert. Eve has been at the diocese for 25 years and has worked in the safe environment office for 16 years.