



200.20

■ POLICY

□ GUIDELINE

YOUTH PROTECTION

REPORTING ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Child abuse is any non-accidental action that harms a child – whether physical, emotional, sexual or by neglect. That includes, but is not limited to:

- Engaging in sexual activity with a child;
- Denial of proper or necessary subsistence, education, medical care, or other care necessary for the child's health;
- Use of restraint procedures on a child that cause injury or pain;
- Administration of prescription drugs or medication without the ongoing supervision of a licensed physician;
- Providing alcoholic beverages or controlled substances;
- Commission of any act, other than by accident that threatens or results in any injury or in death to the child.

Every member of the youth ministry team and parish staff shall immediately report any suspected case of child abuse and/or neglect. In the State of Ohio, reports of child abuse/neglect are made to the county agencies of the Department of Job and Family Services / Public Children Services.

The following are the contact numbers for reporting child abuse in the 23 counties of the Diocese of Columbus:

Coshocton County: (740) 622-1020
Delaware County: (740) 833-2300
Fairfield County: (740) 653-4060
Fayette County: (740) 335-0350
Franklin County: (614) 229-7000
Hardin County: (419) 675-1130
Hocking County: (740) 385-4168
Holmes County: (330) 674-1111
Jackson County: (740) 286-4181
Knox County: (740) 392-5437
Licking County: (740) 349-6333
Madison County: (740) 852-4770

Marion County: (740) 389-2317
Morrow County: (419) 947-9111
Muskingum County: (740) 455-6710
Perry County: (740) 342-3836
Pickaway County: (740) 474-3105
Pike County: (740) 947-5080
Ross County: (740) 702-4453
Scioto County: (740) 456-4164
Tuscarawas County: (330) 339-7791
Union County: (937) 644-1010
Vinton County: (740) 596-2571



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If a county agency is unavailable for any reason, the county sheriff's office is always available for assistance. In the case of an emergency, please call 911.

In addition to contacting the appropriate county agency, any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor by a priest, deacon or other Church personnel shall also be immediately reported to the Diocesan Victims' Assistance Coordinator, the Rev. Msgr. Stephan J. Moloney, toll-free at 1-866-448-0217 or helpisavailable@colsdio.org.

It is the goal of the Diocese of Columbus to make the Church a place of safety: A place of prayer, ministry, and comfort. Everyone who enters our churches, schools, or facilities must be confident in this. Not one child or young person should suffer from abuse while at Church. In order to assure the safety of our children and young people, the Diocese of Columbus has enacted a complete program of protection. As part of this program, the Diocese of Columbus will provide appropriate, just, and pastoral care for anyone who has suffered the crime of sexual abuse of a minor at the hands of diocesan clergy or church employees or volunteers. The Diocese of Columbus will report any and all allegations of abuse reported to it to the authorities and will cooperate fully with those authorities.

Each parish must have a copy of the diocesan policy and procedures for addressing allegations of sexual abuse of minors by priests or deacons and have it readily available for parishioners and staff.