

# Online EIM Training

## **INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to this online EIM training, created in the spring of 2020 at the onset of the coronavirus pandemic as an opportunity for those who were due to renew/update their EIM compliance while in-person workshops were not available

Online EIM training, completed as a renewal/update to applicant's EIM compliance, is good for up to 3 years

The online EIM training will remain available as a renewal option until January 2, 2022 and may return "seasonally" for the busy fall semester each year

Let us begin with prayer

## A PRAYER FOR HEALING VICTIMS OF ABUSE

God of endless love, ever caring, ever strong, always present, always just: You gave your only Son to save us by his blood on the cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace, join to your own suffering the pain of all who have been hurt in body, mind, and spirit by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.

Hear the cries of our brothers and sisters who have been gravely harmed, and the cries of those who love them. Soothe their restless hearts with hope, steady their shaken spirits with faith. Grant them justice for their cause, enlightened by your truth.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts, heal your people's wounds and transform brokenness into wholeness. Grant us the courage and wisdom, humility and grace, to act with justice. Breathe wisdom into our prayers and labors. Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace in justice.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

# Content

This online training includes three sections:

- ▶ Section 1 - Protecting our Children: A Family's Response
  - ▶ Explores a family's response to the sexual abuse of their son by a family friend
  - ▶ Refreshes important protection skills to prevent abuse
- ▶ Section 2 - Elder Abuse - learn the signs and break the silence
  - ▶ This content highlights some of the types of abuse and neglect experienced by many elderly members of our communities
- ▶ Section 3 - Policies, Reporting Procedures and Code of Ethics
  - ▶ Reviews EIM Policies on appropriate and inappropriate interactions with minors
  - ▶ Refreshes reporting procedures
  - ▶ Reminds participants of our shared commitment to uphold the EIM Policies for the protection of our children, elder adults and adults with disabilities and all those we serve in ministry in the Diocese of Austin

# Participation requirements and process

- ▶ Participants in this training must have an existing EIM account and have attended at least one in-person EIM Workshop (recorded in the EIM account) in order to receive credit for completion of the online EIM training
- ▶ New applicants, and those who do not have an in-person EIM Workshop recorded in their account, will not receive credit for online training used as initial EIM compliance
- ▶ Online EIM training participants will complete and submit the Training Verification form in order to verify participation (via a Webform, email or postal mail)
- ▶ The training date will be entered into participant's EIM account within the week

# Children are more at risk for abuse and neglect amid coronavirus pandemic and times of stress

- ▶ Risk factors for child abuse and neglect - including parental stress, economic instability and housing insecurity - increase in situations like this, according to Dr. Melissa Merrick, president and CEO of Prevent Child Abuse America. “School and workplace closings greatly increase stress in parents’ lives,” Merrick said, adding that children with existing behavioral problems are prone to act out as their parents’ tension levels rise.
- ▶ Of children who are sexually abused, 90% know the perpetrator, said Chris Newlin, executive director of the National Children's Advocacy Center. Staying home could make those children more vulnerable.
- ▶ (Confined to) their homes with the increased stress of health risks, layoffs and food insecurity, abusers are more prone to violence, advocates say. With schools closed, children with injuries are less likely to be spotted. And with a virus that spreads from person to person, the state’s child welfare workers are forced to decide: Should they cancel face-to-face visits and risk a child’s safety, or continue them and risk their own?

NOW IS A CRITICAL TIME TO  
REFRESH OUR PROTECTION  
SKILLS SO WE CAN REMAIN  
VIGILANT ADVOCATES FOR  
CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE,  
ELDERS AND OTHERS IN OUR  
MIDST WHO MAY BE  
PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE