

Survey on the Response to Sexual Abuse within the Diocese of Springfield

October 2020

1. Aggregate quantitative responses
2. Executive Summary: Qualitative responses
3. Survey Form: English
4. Survey Form: Spanish
5. Survey Form: Portuguese
6. Survey Form: Vietnamese

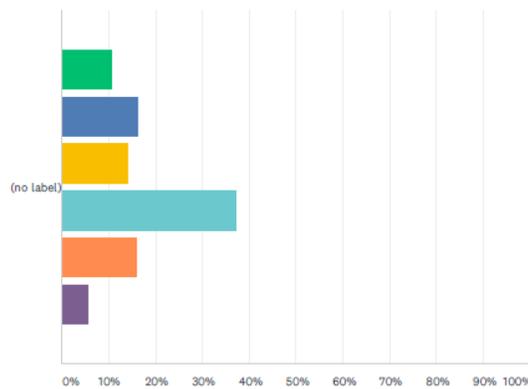
Survey on the Response to Sexual Abuse within the Diocese of Springfield

The Independent Task Force on the Response to Sexual Abuse within the Diocese of Springfield published an on-line survey that was available on diospringfield.org from October 8 – 19, 2020. The survey asked respondents to rate their perception of the Diocese of Springfield and to provide recommendations that the task force should consider making to improve performance. The following is a summary of the Likert Scale responses to the survey questions.

Likert Scale Responses

Q2 The Diocese of Springfield has acknowledged the trauma of sexual abuse on members of our community and ensured the allocation of resources needed to promote healing of survivors.

Answered: 492 Skipped: 0

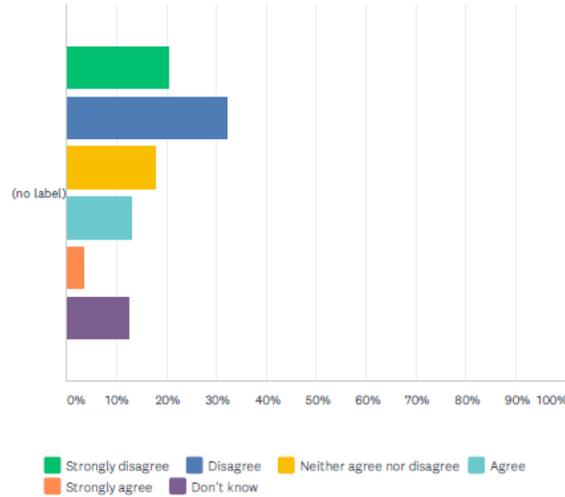


■ Strongly disagree
 ■ Disagree
 ■ Neither agree nor disagree
 ■ Agree
■ Strongly agree
 ■ Don't know

	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
(no label)	10.57%	16.26%	14.23%	37.20%	16.06%	5.69%	492	3.34
	52	80	70	183	79	28		

Q3 The Diocese of Springfield has responded to all allegations of sexual abuse in our church community in a timely, compassionate and fair way.

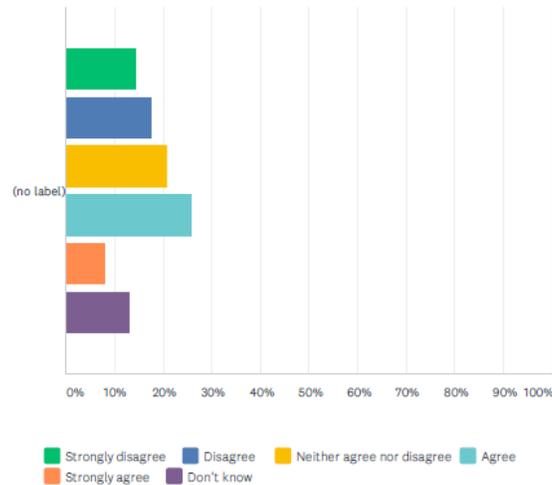
Answered: 492 Skipped: 0



	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
(no label)	20.53%	32.11%	17.89%	13.21%	3.66%	12.60%	492	2.40
	101	158	88	65	18	62		

Q4 The Diocese of Springfield has a transparent system of protocols and procedures for responding to allegations of sexual abuse that guarantee respect and due process for all involved.

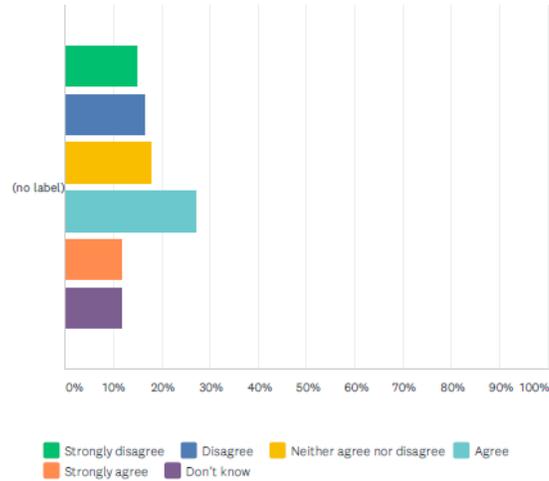
Answered: 492 Skipped: 0



	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
(no label)	14.43%	17.48%	20.93%	26.02%	7.93%	13.21%	492	2.95
	71	86	103	128	39	65		

Q5 The Diocese of Springfield has ensured that local church leadership is held responsible and accountable for failing to protect children and other vulnerable people.

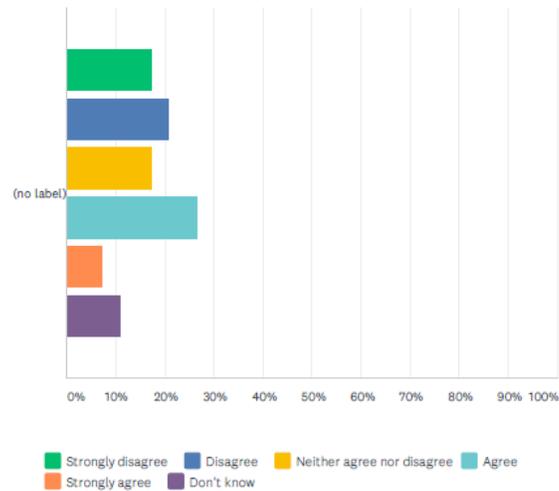
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	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
(no label)	14.84%	16.46%	17.89%	27.24%	11.79%	11.79%	492	3.05
	73	81	88	134	58	58		

Q6 The Diocese of Springfield has held those who have been credibly accused of sexual abuse responsible and accountable.

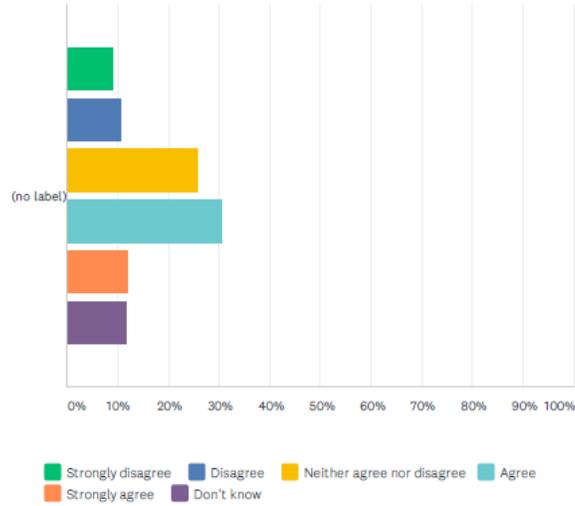
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	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
(no label)	17.28%	20.73%	17.28%	26.63%	7.11%	10.98%	492	2.84
	85	102	85	131	35	54		

Q7 The Diocese of Springfield has an effective program for preventing sexual abuse of anyone in our faith communities in the future.

Answered: 492 Skipped: 0



	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
(no label)	9.15%	10.57%	26.02%	30.49%	11.99%	11.79%	492	3.29
	45	52	128	150	59	58		

INDEPENDENT TASK FORCE ON THE RESPONSE TO SEXUAL ABUSE WITHIN THE DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD

Sub-Committee on Survey Responses

Executive Summary

Q2 The Diocese of Springfield has acknowledged the trauma of sexual abuse on members of our community and ensured the allocation of resources needed to promote healing of survivors

- Transparency and Communication are major issues running throughout all responses
- Diocesan response to sexual abuse has been handled very, very badly, especially in the past, though apparently getting better with time
 - o “misunderstanding how deep and long term the problems were for both the accused and the victim”
 - o “Stop deflecting”
 - Don’t just acknowledge, own it!
 - Because diocese/parish/bishop/priests do not appear to go on offensive against sexual abuse and sin, continue to appear always on the defensive
 - “Educate the community that the scourge of child sex abuse is rampant in all aspects of our society”
- Call for clear communication
 - o “a well-publicized procedure for reporting, a process that will lead to healing for victims and consequences for the credibly accused”
 - “open phone number hotline in place to report abuse”
 - o prevalence of ‘stale’ information
 - o “Find a way to be open, clear, and timely about what happened but to still respect the victims rights to privacy”
 - o Misinformation breeds confusion / Confusion breeds Misinformation
 - Both afflict trust
 - “perhaps we still do not know if there are any bad legacies lurking within our diocese”
 - Incomplete transparency appears deceptive
 - “I see names posted of beloved priests, that I’ve worked with for many years...but only that they were accused with possible credible accusations... I never heard who/what/when/where... so it often seems I’ve been deceived”
 - o “To make this more apparent we must try to use our public resources, like public broadcast, frequently to allow all to be a part of the solution”
 - “Make decisions public as soon as they occur”
 - o Less talk, more action
 - “Remain consistent over time. It seems the Diocese makes strong statements but then gets caught in not so strong practices”
 - Diocese does not appear to be serious about talking directly of sin and crime
 - “This topic has been talked to death. Start taking action”
- What does “allocation of resources” mean?
 - o Funds for diocesan office of Safe Environment
 - o Funds for counseling services, psychiatric therapy, and immediate victim support
 - “make the therapeutic experience easier for survivors”
 - o Funds for training or diocesan/parish personnel
 - o Use of parish/diocesan monies for treatment/support of credibly accused
 - “those found to be guilty should be prosecuted and sent to jail, not sent to a home for priest (sic)”
 - o Be accountable to parishioners and faithful who have endured this scandal and continue their support
 - “Does the diocese really care about us or just our donations”

- “Diocese dropped the ball long ago in this scandal. Now, we employees are constantly being asked to take online training, monthly tests, etc. when it seems the violators are given a pass”
- Misperception regarding purpose of Task Force
 - Is it a new permanent structure within the diocesan offices?
 - Will it continue to monitor, safeguard?
- Competence of those engaged in assisting victims, articulating diocesan policies, addressing the issue of clerical sexual abuse on diocesan/parish level
 - Perception that diocese has little authentic feeling for grief of victims and public
 - “Be sure that those who contact the abused and their family have a solid basis in Christian counseling”
 - Selection, Competence, and Use of parish Child Advocates
 - Contact or volunteer facilitators?
- Lack of understanding and clear grasp of human sexuality promoted in diocese
 - Sexual abuse as crime and sin
 - “Commit resources to formation in Catholic theology of sexuality. Protocols and procedures, though important, do not address the root problem”
 - “How can you rehabilitate the reputation of Christianity without addressing the root causes of why priests abused minors?”
- Acknowledgment of trauma and apology must be directed toward parishioners as well
 - Diocese “yet to admit that the people in the pews are also traumatized by the revelations” (88)
- Ongoing perception of diocesan cover-up re: Danny Croteau murder and its lack of resolution
 - “Bring to closure with full disclosure the evidence in the murder of Danny Croteau and the accusations made in Death of an Altar Boy”
 - “I don’t believe any reconciliation with his family was ever made”

Q3 The Diocese of Springfield has responded to all allegations of sexual abuse in our church community in a timely, compassionate and fair way

- Most responses appeared to be a direct response to Velis Report
 - “The Velis report made our process for dealing with reports to appear well intended but amateurish”
- Timeliness is compassionate
 - Need for timely response is absolute
 - “Timely would have been immediate”
 - “Allegations of abuse must be acknowledge immediately”
 - Urgency belongs to the present
 - While abuse may be in the past, allegations and suffering remain in the present, call for an urgent response
 - “I don’t hear much about abuse cases happening in the present. Whatever the relationship to how long ago the abuse happened, then the case is brought to light, it should be considered urgent”
 - “The Diocese needs to put a stake in the ground and say all current allegations will be handled in an expedient approved manner”
 - Resoluteness about mission and purpose
 - “Permit the community know when a situation develops and get ahead of the problem rather than waiting until the issue becomes unavoidable”
- Enter new era
 - Church as safe place
 - “Churchwide education that all accusations of sexual abuse should start with a phone call to the police”
 - “abuse is not only a moral failure, but a crime”

- “Create a culture within the diocese wherein the victim is given a prompt opportunity to be listened to in a non-confrontational manner”
 - “The diocese has been balancing the defense of its resources and reputation against justice for victims for decades. It has failed utterly. This mindset has to stop”
 - Emphasis on Communication
 - What is the Communication plan of the diocese/parishes?
 - Operationability
 - Development and Execution
 - “I feel all is being done as it comes up”
 - Be proactive, not reactive
 - Progressive, Comprehensive based on severity
 - Consistency
 - What is transparent communication?
 - Announcements at Sunday Mass vs. Announcements in Press Releases
 - “We have had 3 parish priests that are no longer allowed to perform their duties or have been defrocked. All of this occurred while active and conducting parish duties. The parish members found out first by rumor than confirmed in the papers. There still is a cloud of secrecy and a perception of cover up”
 - Address Credibility/Perception of Communications Office
 - Areas of Responsibility
 - Discrepancies among those in charge
 - Discrepancies breed mistrust
 - Diocese does not yet appear to understand the full breadth of the trauma
 - “Too little and with great hesitancy”
 - “The diocese needs to take in the whole picture, the accuser, the accused, the families of the accuser, the families of the accused.”
 - “The diocese has taken a one sided approach to a multifaceted problem”
 - “the ‘silent victims’ are the faithful who stayed, those who strayed or quit altogether”
 - “The church has to publicly admit their sins. Why ask us to go to confession and still act like the church isn’t guilty of worse things?”
 - Perception that Church is not strong enough or resolute in confronting sexual abuse
 - “it saddens me to see that so many of these men I respected were allowed to commit these horrible acts”

Q4 The Diocese of Springfield has a transparent system of protocols and procedures for responding to allegations of sexual abuse that guarantee respect and due process for all involved

- Reinforce Transparency
 - Ensure Protocols are implemented
 - Updating Manual for Child Protection
 - Current policies and procedures lack substance
 - Insufficient
 - Not Communicated
 - Guarantee respect and due process
 - System appears better now than years past according to many respondents
 - MOU (establishing relationship and communicating it) has made a positive impact
- Communicate, Communicate!
 - Consistent practices / language of procedures, communications
 - Reinforce knowledge of procedure
 - “Make this well known and easy to find on website”
 - Annual Letter from Bishop
 - Reminder and Ongoing emphasis

- Bulletins
 - Homilies
- Message (of success, of concern) is not reaching parishioners, clergy, community at-large
 - “What are the protocols and procedures? Let us know!”
 - “When Father Desilets was accused of child molestation, no one from the diocese explained anything to the parish. Fr. Desilets disappeared from the parish and we were left hanging. No explanation, no giving us any information as how we were going to proceed as a parish, and never found out if it was true or not. Very poor decisions on the Diocese’s part. As parishioners, we deserve better”
- Process of Administrative Leave
 - Comprehensive Contact, steps of action
 - Discussion regarding contemporaneous issue regarding lewdness charge
- Include Families of those involved
 - Victim Families
 - Accused Families
 - Parish Families
 - Strengthen Pastoral Outreach
- Role of Lay People in Oversight, Accountability
 - “The church needs to publicize that the first call for an accusation of sexual abuse by the priests is the police! No organization has done a good job of policing themselves”
 - Advocating Advisory Body over OSEVA
 - Counseling methods
 - Accused Clergy Monitor(s)
 - Administrative oversight, resource management
- Acknowledgement vs. Action
 - Proactive vs. Reactive
 - “All the procedures and protocols in the world will not be helpful unless they are accompanied by sincere repentance, accountability, and willingness to reform church culture and structures”
 - “Transparent protocols and procedures mean nothing if they are not followed”

Q5 The Diocese of Springfield has ensured that local church leadership is held responsible and accountable for failing to protect children and other vulnerable persons

- “Diocese” is “the leadership”
 - Ill-defined, not well articulated
 - Confusion re: “local church leadership” (Parish Priest vs. Bishop vs. Pope)
 - Lacking organizational structure
 - “They should have...” often repeated in survey: Who is “they”?
 - “Keep the PR department and church lawyers out of it until/unless the victim brings a lawsuit against the Church”
 - “the hierarchy was complicit. It’s got to start in Rome”
 - Roles and Responsibilities of diocesan personnel (Bishop, Chancellor, Vicar General, et al)
- Trust broken
 - “trust needs to be rebuilt in a different and new way”
 - “The Diocese has tried to minimize the severity of its problem”
 - “Data suggests a sharp falling off of new revelations. I hope this means everything that has been brought to light has successfully changed the former corrupt culture”
 - “Communicate specifics”
- Leadership needs to lead
 - Time and opportunity to Rebuild Trust
 - “The response has been tepid almost as if we are afraid to set the record straight”
 - “The diocese has desperately tried to deflect responsibility to the flock, adding documents with a list of virtues and screening of people who volunteer ... Thinking of past events I have volunteers

at, many more than half the volunteers don't pass the list of virtues required on that documentation. Some would say 'oh, just ignore that if you know the people are good people'"

- Clergy are not receiving appropriate guidance or leadership
 - o "Education of the clergy is of paramount importance"
 - o "I do not believe the local clergy are really up to speed on the protocol to follow"
 - o "Set clear protocols and make them very clear to all who work for the diocese"
 - o "The pastors do not have the training nor the time to handle the complaints"
- Open Issues
 - o Velis Report (current leadership and persons)
 - o Croteau Murder
 - "The long simmering rage against Richard Lavigne's involvement with Dan Croteau's murder lingers"
 - o "Implement change and inform the public"
 - o "Once an investigation is completed, tell us the results"
- "updateness" of compliance, immediacy of response
 - o "The perception of safer environments for the laity, seminarians, and good priests should continue to be reinforced"
 - o "Three party oversight, with tight timeline investigations and follow-up reporting"
 - o "Immediate reporting to law authorities"
 - o "Make public on the diocesan website the 'up-to-date ness' of every parish. It should be public knowledge that the pastor, parochial vicar, retired priest in residence, etc. has completed VIRTUS training. It should be public knowledge that a parish has 100% of its religious ed teachers, kitchen volunteers, Eucharistic ministers, lectors, etc. VIRTUS trained and background checked. Those parishes that fail to keep their numbers at 100% should be known. I'd avoid going to one of those churches. I bet other families would follow suit"

Q6 The Diocese of Springfield has held those who have been credibly accused of sexual abuse responsible and accountable

- Strict investigation, oversight
 - o Transparency
 - o "Too insular/ no way of knowing or following up on outcome"
 - o "I feel the diocese has protected abusers"
 - o "Act swiftly"
- Misinformation too often occurring
 - o "I have not witnessed malice of intent or malfeasance of any kind. Of course, the errors and missteps along the way may have been interpreted as such by some but I believe such interpretations have been the result of misinformation or outright distortion of the facts"
 - o "What exactly has been done for those who have been credibly accused? Is all this information readily available and (sic) accessible?"
 - o "I usually find out through the press or plaintiffs attorney and not the diocese"
 - o "The diocese' administration has always suffered from a lack of transparency. How would the lay-folk in general be informed that some one credibly accused was actually held responsible and accountable? Diocese' print and TV media are essentially cheerleaders who don't inform us on any of the gritty realities in the life of our Church. This feeds the myth of 'perfection' which only makes it more difficult to break into their glossy version of our Church with abuse allegations or just everyday criticism"
- Disparate attitudes towards accused
 - o "Their acts are vile and they should be held accountable – but they are still human and still deserve compassion"
 - o "All ties should be cut and they should be publicly denounced from any association"
 - o "Excommunicated without a pension"
- Past vs. Present

- “Over time, yes, but more will need to be done to show a greater sense of urgency”
- “It took forever to acknowledge issues”
 - Possibility of timeliness in exposing crimes being dependent on victims’ revelation when specific crimes were unknown to diocese
- “They are doing more now than ever before!”
- Address Specifics
 - “Announcement are made initially, then seem to fade away with no real completion”
 - Lavigne / Dupre / Weldon
 - “Name those who helped HIDE it. This is a BIG part of it ...please acknowledge this!”
- Confusion between Civil/Legal Response to Sexual Abuse vs. Canonical Response vs. Pastoral Response
 - “Justice delayed is justice denied... Those who aided the coverup are just as guilty of crime as the abusers are, but the majority of both groups has been able to escape legal punishment. Allowing it to go unpunished (even if forgiven by the church and God) denies justice to victims. How can the Catholic Church atone for that???”
 - “Sexual abuse is a crime in Massachusetts”
 - “The clergy who committed the offenses and were found guilty should be sentenced under the law not hidden behind the cloak of the church”
 - Appropriate Stage of Assessment of Credibility
 - “Who decides what is credible”
 - “I am troubled when being credibly accused means the same as being convicted”
 - Current Abuse vs. Historical Abuse
 - Dealing with cases which DA will not prosecute
 - Penal Process regarding Ministry subsequent to Civil Process regarding Guilt/Innocence
 - “Explain better the accountability as stated in Canon law”
- Questions regarding diocesan support for accused clergy
 - Public outcry against ongoing support and expenditure of diocesan monies
 - “We see no apology from our offending Priests, yet they receive an undisclosed stipend. Be honest”
 - remuneration vs. sustenance
 - what are conditions OSEVA could place
 - Monitoring credibly accused
 - Develop safety plan or recommend Review Board to develop
 - Impartial, third party group to operationalize
 - Review Board to review, be responsible

Q7 The Diocese of Springfield has an effective program for preventing sexual abuse of anyone in our faith communities in the future

- “What program?????”
 - “The loss of credibility has been immense”
- Build up an entire administration
 - “Continued training for staff/volunteers”
 - “Effectiveness is to be seen, the effort sure is visible in parish paperwork”
 - Concerns regarding ‘counselor’ to predator priests
 - Standardize program across diocese
 - “These principles need constant repetition”
 - “There should videos made to show the youth so everyone gets the same message”
 - Child advocates could play a greater role in prevention
 - “Child advocates need more guidance to make sure procedures and protocols are followed. A template letter that Child Advocates can use to send to employees and volunteers stating specifically what is required by when. This way everyone is on the same page”

- Shared responsibility between clergy and lay
 - o “How can it be ‘effective’ if parishioners are not made more aware of the ‘Program’?”
 - o “Increased continual education of the program to all peoples, not only those who are specifically considered to be in contact with children and vulnerable persons”
 - o “Show the program not only to children and their guardians, but to the entire congregation so we can feel good about it”
 - o “Continue to educate. Provide workshops and support groups. There are some things in place but people don’t always have that information. Put a newsletter in bulletins quarterly so people know it is still a top priority to deal with this crisis”
- Success of program dependent on engaged clergy
 - o “Better formation for priests and religious”
 - o “The program we use now is light years ahead of what we were using 15 years ago. Still, vigilance is key. But what do you do when a pastor is not onboard with this?”
 - o “Priests who are concerned about Reporting abuse have been vilified by ‘brotherhood of priests’”
 - o “We have clergy who actually fight the CORI and Virtus process!”
- Current Processes may not be sufficient
 - o Assumptions made re: capacity of existing child advocates to be facilitators/monitors
 - o “The diocese has made Virtus training available to clergy but has failed to have any mandatory live face to face training by experts in the handling of sexual abuse training. This training should include things to look for, how to make a report to D.C.F. (51A training), what should be done in the event that someone comes forward to them about abuse (what steps to take so that possible criminal prosecution is not hampered)”
 - o Ongoing CQI to identify and implement best practice innovations in a timely manner
 - “Insofar as ‘preventing sexual abuse’ is possible, I believe the official diocese is making use of the best means possible. The Task Force could provide a great service by having a member or members partially dedicated to research on the matter so that, should better means and resources evolve and become available, the official diocese would be made aware of them swiftly”
 - “On-going monitoring and periodic audits that identify further improvements are essential”
- Programs in use not maximized or deemed adequate
 - o How does the Diocese measure success?
 - “Do we have evidence that the program is actually working? What kind of benchmarks are being used?”
 - o VIRTUS platform not being used optimally
 - Definition re: “Volunteer”
 - o “If the SEED program is the only program, it is clearly not enough!”
 - o “The program we are forced to teach in CCD is nothing more than a check mark that we need in order to appease the national conference”
 - o “I think the program circle of grace is an improvement but the training is not sufficient ... We all learned the concepts but not really how to ‘teach’ them”
- “Please publicize your plan”

Q8 Are there any other ideas you have to improve the Diocese of Springfield’s response to sexual abuse?

- “Acknowledge that these are crimes and should be treated as such”
 - o “disciplined more strongly”
 - o “Treat every case with suspicion until proven otherwise”
 - o “Don’t ignore reports and accusations made against diocese staff (clergy and lay)”
 - o “Make everyone know, unequivocally and loud and clear, what FIRST must be done is to call the DAs office”
 - o “Criminally prosecute clergy”

- “Allow the law to send perpetrators to jail”
- “Treat the offenders as the criminal they are”
- “Please work to be transparent and to let the public know that this criminal behavior will not be tolerated in our church. Period!!!”
- Diocesan act of atonement
 - “a day, week, year of atonement for all the sexual sins in the diocese – and if it’s difficult defining what they all are, that’s my point”
 - “Among the priests we need to nourish lives of prayer ... share the fruitfulness of their prayer as well as the challenges and joys of their lives”
 - “a day of healing prayer and Eucharistic Adoration”
- Promoting a cultural shift
 - “new bishop must set a new tone for the diocese”
 - “TIRED of it being a continual topic”
 - “Evangelization”
 - “Seminary TRAINING is very important place to continually be abreast of, ...in light of the Human Factor”
 - “Not all abuses are sexual. Please consider abuses of power, psychological abuse, etc.”
 - “more intense prayer life and conversion of heart”
 - “People’s souls are at risk”
 - “Educating the parishioners ... Talk about it more!”
 - “Keep this issue on the front burner and hopefully with time you will regain confidence from the faithful”
 - “Enforce a disciplined life for priests ...”
- Unify priests in communicating a message on the issue of sexual abuse (acknowledgment, healing, prevention)
 - “Every priest should more openly talk about this tragedy”
 - “All priests should have annual training in counseling ... Sensitivity training”
 - “Provide leadership ... respectful, bold, support to local priests so they are empowered to say THE TRUTH”
- Victims, families, laity, religious, faithful clergy, and community at large have all suffered a Trauma and never properly healed
- “Deal with the fact that there are more victims of the situation who are not being addressed”
 - Outreach to families (of victims, of accused)
 - “‘silent victims’: your faithful, those who have strayed or left the church altogether”
 - “survey’s first question failed to include those who have stepped away from the church”
- Suffering of victims is not often well understood
 - “their pain is real... make it very well known that reporting is safe and will be taken seriously”
 - “Believe the accuser”
 - “For the victim, it is still ‘yesterday’ and therefore an open wound that needs to be healed”
 - “People who have suffered sexual abuse do NOT have an option to participate and volunteer at the church level if they say they can’t take the training program
- Financial Transparency
 - “An Apostolic Visitation to investigate the intentional destruction and sale of church buildings, patrimony, and property, along with payouts, needs to be a priority”
 - “Breach of fiduciary responsibility. Assets are being sold under value. It’s a cycle that needs to end”
 - “when those with money are called upon over and over again, and inept people lead the Pope Francis School launch and other major projects, the situation is sad”
 - “Spend some of OUR monies on cutting school tuition ... We worked very hard to \$support the church and schools”
- All are invested in the Diocese’s success in confronting the sexual abuse crisis, leadership is responsible
 - “Its in the best interest of all to stay on top of all allegations”

- “Keep us informed”
- “We have both a local and national problem in integrity over this issue. More laity should be involved in determining policy, procedures, and communication...”
- “more communication around these issues to ALL members of the diocese”
- “educate the parents”
- “Reaching out to survivors for their current status and well being... ask them for their input on future decisions”
- “speakers on this topic should come directly to the people through the Mass in each parish and or formal and informal discussion groups”
- “ongoing education so we won’t forget”
- Clear Process/Protocols/Procedures
 - “The Diocesan leadership needs to be more transparent. There needs to be less ‘hoops’ to jump through and have specific protocols to be followed for everyone”
 - “professional investigators”
 - “Regularly communication on our No Tolerance policy for any employee – lay or clergy. Right now all training is virtual and managements should be required post COVID to do inperson training. Sexual harassment can be the first step to sexual abuse – it exists in our Diocese”
 - “never forget that every person is innocent until proven guilty”
 - “Strong credible evidence must be presented before the life of a Priest or religious person is ruined”
 - “We need to be sure we publicly acknowledge and call out offenders once a review is complete”
 - “Independent authority to rule with autonomy over offenders”
 - “when an abuser is removed from ministry and doesn’t get prosecuted – but you make settlements to his victims – make certain someone is his ‘parole officer’ meaning he’s got a watcher – someone he’s accountable to. Just because they move out of the diocese doesn’t mean we are not still responsible... we should have caught him and prosecuted him when it was happening ... and not decades later”
 - “Eliminate the task force and allow allegations to proceed through normal legal channels”
 - “give parents more involvement in the developments of a standard procedure”
 - “Education in the lower grades/CCD”
 - Zero tolerance policy
 - “non-Catholics on the Review Board”
 - “Continuing education and psychological review for clergy need to be done annually. Secrecy of the confessional is a pipeline to the victims. Ensure there is a safe place where confessions can be heard”
 - “let’s get this matter under control, get the protocols (sic) done, get the enthusiasm level up to actively support the program and really, really get true leadership from our priest at every level from the Pope to the Bishops to the parish Priests”
- Specify Persons of Responsibility
 - Assess current leadership positions
 - “The bishop needs to stay interested and encourage his priests and laity to offer input. And he needs to act on it”
 - “hold the parishes accountable”
 - “Investigate how vocations are being discerned and vetted”
- Establish Comprehensive Communication Plan
 - “Honest communication with all parishioners”
 - “Communication is key in a consistent and uniform manner!!”
 - “I think if a priest in each parish took a week or two to explain the past and more significantly explain thoroughly what future plans are. A newspaper article does not seem adequate”
- Acknowledge and address miscommunications and mishandlings
 - “Transparency, honesty, and acknowledgment by the diocese on the impact this scandal has had on the faith community is paramount to any movement of change”

- “Just don’t be secretive about it or slow about it”
- “Share the numbers of reported cases, the years in which the alleged abuse took place, and what was done about each upon notification. If we have been responsible, at least in recent years, it would help if we all were so informed”
- “I feel this is a subject the diocese wants closed, without any real resolution”
- “Continue with independent investigations, respond right away, be transparent and inform the public”
- “dissemination of facts coupled with intensive and ongoing education. Knowledge is not only power, it is healing.”
- “When it has happened to two boys in your own family you just want someone in the church to believe them”



THE DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

servicing berkshire, franklin, hampden & hampshire counties

Survey on the Response to Sexual Abuse within the Diocese of Springfield

The Independent Task Force on the Response to Sexual Abuse within the Diocese of Springfield invites you to complete a brief survey of how you perceive the diocese's response to allegations of sexual abuse in the past. Your valuable feedback will be used to help inform the development of a strategic plan to improve the diocese's response.

Your responses will be confidential unless you want to share your contact information (optional). If you choose to share you contact information, a member of the task force may contact you to ask follow-up questions and there are limits of confidentiality* for any reports of sexual abuse.

Thank you for sharing your input and feedback!

* 1. Which best describes your relationship to the Diocese of Springfield?

- Victim-Survivor
- Family member of a victim-survivor
- Clergy (Priest or Deacon within the Diocese)
- Child Advocate (parish and/or school)
- Other (please specify)
- Parishioner who volunteers in parish life
- Parishioner who attends Mass
- Member of a religious order or community
- Employee/ educator for a ministry within the diocese (e.g. Pastoral Center, parish, school, etc.)

* 2. The Diocese of Springfield has acknowledged the trauma of sexual abuse on members of our community and ensured the allocation of resources needed to promote healing of survivors.

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What recommendation(s) should the task force consider making to improve this performance? (please specify)

* 3. The Diocese of Springfield has responded to all allegations of sexual abuse in our church community in a timely, compassionate and fair way.

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What recommendation(s) should the task force consider making to improve this performance? (please specify)

* 4. The Diocese of Springfield has a transparent system of protocols and procedures for responding to allegations of sexual abuse that guarantee respect and due process for all involved.

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What recommendation(s) should the task force consider making to improve this performance? (please specify)

* 5. The Diocese of Springfield has ensured that local church leadership is held responsible and accountable for failing to protect children and other vulnerable people.

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What recommendation(s) should the task force consider making to improve this performance? (please specify)

* 6. The Diocese of Springfield has held those who have been credibly accused of sexual abuse responsible and accountable.

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What recommendation(s) should the task force consider making to improve this performance? (please specify)

* 7. The Diocese of Springfield has an effective program for preventing sexual abuse of anyone in our faith communities in the future.

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What recommendation(s) should the task force consider making to improve this performance? (please specify)

8. Are there any other ideas you have to improve the Diocese of Springfield's response to sexual abuse?

9. Contact Information (optional)

Name	<input type="text"/>
Email Address	<input type="text"/>
Phone Number	<input type="text"/>

***Limits of Confidentiality:**

The Diocese of Springfield reports allegations of sexual abuse to law enforcement and other civil authorities as required by law. Any allegations of sexual abuse reported through this survey will be reported in accordance with the [Memorandum of Understanding](#) with the western Massachusetts District Attorneys' Offices on reporting sexual misconduct allegations. To report allegations of sexual abuse by representatives of the Roman Catholic Church, please contact the Office of Safe Environment and Victim Assistance at (800) 842-9055 or at reportabuse@diospringfield.org.



LA DIÓCESIS DE SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

sirviendo a los condados de berkshire, franklin, hamden y hampshire

Encuesta sobre la Respuesta al Abuso Sexual dentro de la Diócesis de Springfield

El Grupo de Trabajo Independiente sobre la Respuesta al Abuso Sexual dentro de la Diócesis de Springfield le invita a completar una breve encuesta sobre cómo usted percibe la respuesta de la Diócesis a las acusaciones de abuso sexual ocurridas en el pasado. Sus valiosos comentarios se utilizarán para ayudar a informar el desarrollo de un plan estratégico para mejorar la respuesta de la Diócesis.

Sus respuestas serán confidenciales, a menos que usted desee compartir su información de contacto (opcional). Si elige compartir su información de contacto, un miembro del grupo de trabajo podría comunicarse con usted para hacerle preguntas de seguimiento y existen límites de confidencialidad* para cualquier reporte de abuso sexual.

¡Muchas gracias por compartir sus comentarios y sugerencias!

* 1. ¿Qué describe mejor su relación con la Diócesis de Springfield?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Víctima-Sobreviviente | <input type="radio"/> Feligrés voluntario en la vida parroquial |
| <input type="radio"/> Miembro de la familia de una víctima-sobreviviente | <input type="radio"/> Feligrés que asiste a Misa |
| <input type="radio"/> Clérigo (Sacerdote o Diácono dentro de la Diócesis) | <input type="radio"/> Miembro de una orden o comunidad religiosa |
| <input type="radio"/> Defensor de la Niñez (parroquia y/o escuela) | <input type="radio"/> Empleado/Educador de un ministerio dentro de la Diócesis (por ej., Centro Pastoral, parroquia, escuela, etc.) |
| <input type="radio"/> Otro (por favor, especifique) | |

* 2. La Diócesis de Springfield ha reconocido el trauma del abuso sexual en los miembros de nuestra comunidad y ha asegurado la asignación de recursos necesarios para promover el bienestar de los sobrevivientes.

Muy en desacuerdo En desacuerdo Neutral De Acuerdo Muy de Acuerdo No sé

¿Qué recomendaciones debería considerar el grupo de trabajo para mejorar este desempeño? (Por favor, especifique.)

* 3. La Diócesis de Springfield ha respondido a todas las acusaciones de abuso sexual en la comunidad de nuestra iglesia de una forma oportuna, compasiva y justa.

Muy en desacuerdo En desacuerdo Neutral De Acuerdo Muy de Acuerdo No sé

¿Qué recomendaciones debería considerar el grupo de trabajo para mejorar este desempeño? (Por favor, especifique.)

* 4. La Diócesis de Springfield tiene un sistema transparente de protocolos y procedimientos para responder a las acusaciones de abuso sexual que garantizan el respeto y el debido proceso para todos los involucrados.

Muy en desacuerdo En desacuerdo Neutral De Acuerdo Muy de Acuerdo No sé

¿Qué recomendaciones debería considerar el grupo de trabajo para mejorar este desempeño? (Por favor, especifique.)

* 5. La Diócesis de Springfield se ha asegurado de que el liderazgo local de la iglesia sea considerado responsable y responda por no proteger a los niños y otras personas vulnerables.

Muy en desacuerdo En desacuerdo Neutral De Acuerdo Muy de Acuerdo No sé

¿Qué recomendaciones debería considerar el grupo de trabajo para mejorar este desempeño? (Por favor, especifique.)

* 6. La Diócesis de Springfield ha hecho responsables y ha hecho que respondan aquellos que han sido acusados de manera creíble de abuso sexual.

Muy en desacuerdo En desacuerdo Neutral De Acuerdo Muy de Acuerdo No sé

¿Qué recomendaciones debería considerar el grupo de trabajo para mejorar este desempeño? (Por favor, especifique.)

* 7. La Diócesis de Springfield tiene un programa eficaz para prevenir en el futuro el abuso sexual de cualquier persona en nuestras comunidades de fe.

Muy en desacuerdo En desacuerdo Neutral De Acuerdo Muy de Acuerdo No sé

¿Qué recomendaciones debería considerar el grupo de trabajo para mejorar este desempeño? (Por favor, especifique.)

8. ¿Tiene alguna otra idea para mejorar la respuesta de la Diócesis de Springfield al abuso sexual?

9. Información de Contacto (opcional)

Nombre

Correo Electrónico

Teléfono

***Límites de la Confidencialidad:**

La Diócesis de Springfield informa las denuncias de abuso sexual a la policía y otras autoridades civiles, según lo exige la ley. Cualquier alegación de abuso sexual informada a través de esta encuesta será denunciada de acuerdo con el Memorando de Entendimiento con la Oficina del Fiscal del Distrito del Oeste de Massachusetts sobre la denuncia de alegaciones de conducta sexual inapropiada. Para denunciar acusaciones de abuso sexual por parte de representantes de la Iglesia Católica Romana, comuníquese con la Oficina de Ambiente Seguro y Asistencia a las Víctimas llamando al (800) 842-9055 o escribiendo a reportabuse@diospringfield.org.



THE DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

serviing berkshire, franklin, hampden & hampshire counties

Pesquisa sobre a resposta ao abuso sexual na Diocese de Springfield

A Força-Tarefa Independente sobre a Resposta ao Abuso Sexual na Diocese de Springfield convida você a completar uma breve pesquisa sobre como você entende a resposta da diocese às alegações de abuso sexual no passado. Seu valioso feedback será usado para ajudar a informar o desenvolvimento de um plano estratégico para melhorar a resposta da diocese.

Suas respostas serão confidenciais, a menos que você queira compartilhar suas informações de contato (opcional). Se você decidir compartilhar suas informações de contato, um membro da força-tarefa pode contatá-lo para fazer perguntas de acompanhamento e há limites de confidencialidade* para qualquer denúncia de abuso sexual.

Obrigado por compartilhar sua opinião e feedback!

* 1. Qual das opções descreve melhor sua relação com a Diocese de Springfield?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Vítima-Sobrevivente | <input type="radio"/> Paroquiano que é voluntário na vida paroquial |
| <input type="radio"/> Membro da família de uma vítima sobrevivente | <input type="radio"/> Paroquiano que assiste à missa |
| <input type="radio"/> Clero (sacerdote ou diácono na diocese) | <input type="radio"/> Membro de uma ordem ou comunidade religiosa |
| <input type="radio"/> Defensor da Criança (paróquia e/ou escola) | <input type="radio"/> Funcionário / educador de um ministério dentro da diocese (por exemplo, Centro pastoral, paróquia, escola, etc.) |
| <input type="radio"/> Outro (por favor, especifique) | |

* 2. A Diocese de Springfield reconheceu o trauma do abuso sexual em membros de nossa comunidade e garantiu a alocação dos recursos necessários para promover a cura dos sobreviventes.

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Discordo plenamente | Discordo | Nem concordo nem
discordo | Concordo | Concordo
plenamente | Não sei |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Que recomendação(ões) a força-tarefa deveria considerar fazer para melhorar esse desempenho? (por favor, especifique)

* 3. A Diocese de Springfield respondeu a todas as alegações de abuso sexual em nossa comunidade eclesial de maneira oportuna, compassiva e justa.

Discordo plenamente	Discordo	Nem concordo nem discordo	Concordo	Concordo plenamente	Não sei
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Que recomendação(ões) a força-tarefa deveria considerar fazer para melhorar esse desempenho? (por favor, especifique)

* 4. A Diocese de Springfield tem um sistema transparente de protocolos e procedimentos para responder às denúncias de abuso sexual que garantem o respeito e o devido processo para todos os envolvidos.

Discordo plenamente	Discordo	Nem concordo nem discordo	Concordo	Concordo plenamente	Não sei
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Que recomendação(ões) a força-tarefa deveria considerar fazer para melhorar esse desempenho? (por favor, especifique)

* 5. A Diocese de Springfield garantiu que a liderança da igreja local seja responsabilizada e preste contas por não proteger as crianças e outras pessoas vulneráveis.

Discordo plenamente	Discordo	Nem concordo nem discordo	Concordo	Concordo plenamente	Não sei
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Que recomendação(ões) a força-tarefa deveria considerar fazer para melhorar esse desempenho? (por favor, especifique)

* 6. A Diocese de Springfield responsabilizou os que foram acusados de abuso sexual de forma credível e os fez prestar contas.

Discordo plenamente	Discordo	Nem concordo nem discordo	Concordo	Concordo plenamente	Não sei
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Que recomendação(ões) a força-tarefa deveria considerar fazer para melhorar esse desempenho? (por favor, especifique)

* 7. A Diocese de Springfield tem um programa eficaz para prevenir o abuso sexual de qualquer pessoa em nossas comunidades religiosas no futuro.

Discordo plenamente	Discordo	Nem concordo nem discordo	Concordo	Concordo plenamente	Não sei
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Que recomendação(ões) a força-tarefa deveria considerar fazer para melhorar esse desempenho? (por favor, especifique)

8. Você tem alguma outra ideia para melhorar a resposta da Diocese de Springfield ao abuso sexual?

9. Informações de contato (opcional)

Nome

Endereço de e-mail

Número de telephone

* **Limites de Confidencialidade:**

A Diocese de Springfield relata alegações de abuso sexual às autoridades policiais e outras autoridades civis, conforme exigido por lei. Quaisquer alegações de abuso sexual relatadas por meio desta pesquisa serão relatadas de acordo com o [Memorando de Entendimento](#) junto aos escritórios do Procurador-Geral do oeste de Massachusetts sobre o relato de alegações de má conduta sexual. Para relatar as alegações de abuso sexual por parte de representantes da Igreja Católica Romana, favor contatar o Gabinete de Ambiente Seguro e Assistência às Vítimas no (800) 842-9055 ou pelo reportabuse@diospringfield.org.



GIÁO PHẬN SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Phục vụ các quận Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden & Hampshire

Khảo sát về việc ứng phó với Lạm dụng tình dục ở Giáo phận Springfield

Ban Đặc Trách Độc Lập trong việc ứng phó Lạm dụng tình dục tại Giáo Phận Springfield mời quý vị hoàn thành bản khảo sát dưới đây về cảm nhận của quý vị qua các phương thức mà Giáo Phận đáp ứng cho các nạn nhân bị lạm dụng tình dục xảy ra trong quá khứ. Nhờ những ý kiến quý báu của quý vị, Giáo Phận sẽ lập ra phương thức hữu hiệu nhất để đối phó với vấn đề lạm dụng tình dục.

Tất cả các câu trả lời của quý vị sẽ được bảo mật, ngoại trừ quý vị muốn chia sẻ những thông tin liên lạc của mình (Điều này không bắt buộc). Nếu quý vị chọn chia sẻ thông tin liên lạc của mình, một thành viên trong Ban Đặc Trách sẽ liên hệ với quý vị để có thêm những câu hỏi tiếp theo và việc bảo mật có những giới hạn cho bất cứ báo cáo nào của việc lạm dụng tình dục.

Xin chân thành cảm ơn quý vị đã chia sẻ những kiến nghị của mình.

* 1. Câu nào diễn tả đúng nhất trong mối quan hệ của quý vị với Giáo Phận Springfield?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Nạn nhân – người vượt qua biến cố này | <input type="radio"/> Giáo dân người làm thiện tình nguyện trong giáo xứ |
| <input type="radio"/> Thành viên gia đình của nạn nhân | <input type="radio"/> Giáo dân tham dự Thánh lễ |
| <input type="radio"/> Giáo sĩ (Linh mục hoặc Phó tế trong Giáo phận) | <input type="radio"/> Thành viên của một dòng hoặc cộng đồng tôn giáo |
| <input type="radio"/> Người ủng hộ trẻ em (giáo xứ và/hoặc trường học) | <input type="radio"/> Nhân viên/nhà giáo dục cho một mục vụ trong giáo phận (ví dụ: Trung tâm Mục vụ, giáo xứ, trường học, v.v.) |
| <input type="radio"/> Ý kiến khác (vui lòng nêu rõ) | |

* 2. Giáo Phận Springfield đã nhận biết những tổn thương do việc lạm dụng tình dục gây ra cho các nạn nhân trong Cộng đồng và đã tìm những phương thức tốt nhất để giúp các nạn nhân vượt qua được những tổn thương.

Rất không đồng ý Không đồng ý và cũng không phản đối Đồng ý Hoàn toàn đồng ý Không biết

<input type="radio"/>					
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Ban Đặc Trách nên cân nhắc đưa ra (những) khuyến nghị nào để cải thiện tình trạng này? (Vui lòng nêu cụ thể)

* 3. Giáo Phận Springfield đã đáp ứng tất cả các cáo buộc lạm dụng tình dục trong các Cộng Đoàn Giáo Xứ một cách kịp thời, đầy nhân ái và công bằng.

Rất không đồng ý
đồng ý

Không đồng ý

Không đồng ý và
cũng không phản đối

Đồng ý

Hoàn toàn đồng ý

Không biết

Ban Đặc Trách nên cân nhắc đưa ra (những) khuyến nghị nào để cải thiện tình trạng này? (Vui lòng nêu cụ thể)

* 4. Giáo Phận Springfield có một tiến trình minh bạch và rõ ràng nhằm đáp ứng các cáo buộc lạm dụng tình dục để đảm bảo sự tôn trọng và đúng theo quy trình cho các nạn nhân.

Rất không đồng ý
đồng ý

Không đồng ý

Không đồng ý và
cũng không phản đối

Đồng ý

Hoàn toàn đồng ý

Không biết

Ban Đặc Trách nên cân nhắc đưa ra (những) khuyến nghị nào để cải thiện tình trạng này? (Vui lòng nêu cụ thể)

* 5. Giáo Phận Springfield đã bảo đảm rằng những người đại diện trong Giáo xứ đã biết là họ phải chịu trách nhiệm cho việc không bảo vệ an toàn cho các trẻ em và những người dễ bị tổn thương.

Rất không đồng ý
đồng ý

Không đồng ý

Không đồng ý và
cũng không phản đối

Đồng ý

Hoàn toàn đồng ý

Không biết

Ban Đặc Trách nên cân nhắc đưa ra (những) khuyến nghị nào để cải thiện tình trạng này? (Vui lòng nêu cụ thể)

* 6. Giáo Phận Springfield buộc những người đã phạm tội lạm dụng tình dục phải chịu trách nhiệm.

Rất không đồng ý đồng ý Không đồng ý Không đồng ý và cũng không phản đối Đồng ý Hoàn toàn đồng ý Không biết

Ban Đặc Trách nên cân nhắc đưa ra (những) khuyến nghị nào để cải thiện tình trạng này? (Vui lòng nêu cụ thể)

* 7. Giáo Phận Springfield đưa ra một chương trình giáo dục hữu hiệu, nhằm ngăn ngừa việc lạm dụng tình dục cho tất cả mọi người trong Cộng đoàn Đức tin trong tương lai.

Rất không đồng ý đồng ý Không đồng ý Không đồng ý và cũng không phản đối Đồng ý Hoàn toàn đồng ý Không biết

Ban Đặc Trách nên cân nhắc đưa ra (những) khuyến nghị nào để cải thiện tình trạng này? (Vui lòng nêu cụ thể)

8. Quý vị có thêm những ý kiến đóng góp nào khác để giúp cho việc ứng phó hữu hiệu hơn cho Giáo phận Springfield đối với hành vi lạm dụng tình dục không?

9. Thông tin liên hệ (tùy chọn)

Tên

Địa chỉ email

Số điện thoại

***Giới hạn bảo mật:**

Giáo phận Springfield báo cáo các cáo buộc lạm dụng tình dục cho cơ quan thực thi pháp luật và các cơ quan dân sự khác theo yêu cầu của pháp luật. Mọi cáo buộc về lạm dụng tình dục được báo cáo thông qua cuộc khảo sát này sẽ được báo cáo theo [Biên bản Ghi nhớ](#) với Văn phòng Biện lý Quận phía Tây Massachusetts về việc báo cáo các cáo buộc về hành vi sai trái về tình dục. Để báo cáo các cáo buộc lạm dụng tình dục của các đại diện của Nhà thờ Công giáo La Mã, vui lòng liên hệ với Văn phòng Hỗ trợ Nạn nhân và Môi trường An toàn theo số (800) 842-9055 hoặc tại trang reportabuse@diospringfield.org.