



# Be Vigilant— Know the Signs

## Why Safe Environment?

As Catholics, we must be vigilant if we want our local parishes, schools, and community to be a safe environment for our children to learn and practice their faith. In order to create and maintain existing safe environments, the Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls requires all adults and youth to complete an annual Safe Environment Program (SEP).

## Youth Program

Youth in grades K-12 will learn how to identify uncomfortable situations and how to seek help from a trusted adult through the *Circle of Grace* program. This Catholic-centered program is age-appropriate and taught in the classroom by an educator or trained adult.

## Adult Program

Adults will complete training and a criminal background check through *CMG Connect*.

*CMG Connect* is a secure, online training platform that allows adults to easily complete all requirements within the comfort of their own home.

## Contact Your Local Coordinator

If you need assistance, please contact your local coordinator or the diocesan coordinator:

*Diocesan Coordinator:*  
Rihannon Delle  
rdelle@sfcatholic.org  
(605) 988-3722

## Complete Your Training Today!

- Sign-in or create an account at [www.sfcatholic.org/SafeEnvironment](http://www.sfcatholic.org/SafeEnvironment) or <https://siouxfalls.cmgconnect.org>
- View, update or create your profile  
*(your information is confidential and secure)*
- Watch locally-produced video  
*(approx. 35 min)*
- Complete Misconduct Questionnaire  
*(everyone completes a new one this year)*
- Logout

**Background Checks:** Because we are transitioning to a new vendor and want to prevent duplicate checks, you may be asked to complete a background check through *CMG Connect* if a valid background check is not on file at the diocese.

The new Sioux Falls Diocese safe environment training platform through CMG Connect is now ready. To access CMG Connect homepage:

**<https://siouxfalls.cmgconnect.org>**

Please note:

Everyone will

- Be sure to follow the directions on the screen.
  - All required fields must be completed.
  - **Your username:** The diocese strongly urges you to choose for your username your LastnameFirstname (Middleinitial, if needed), no spaces.  
Examples: DoeJohn or DoeJohnP
- Don't forget to write down for your own records your username and password.**
- Once registered, begin video training. The training video is about 35 minutes and divided into 4 chapters. (You cannot fast forward through the Chapters). At the end of Chapter 4 you will be directed to video questions box and answer the question. There is not a right or wrong answer – you cannot fail.
  - Once completed, click on Code of Conduct to read Diocese of Sioux Falls Sexual Misconduct Policy. Once completed, click on Acknowledgement Questions box, submit answers.
  - Once completed your Safe Environment Curriculum box will state **completed**. No need to print anything. Click *Logout* to exit training.
  - **Background Check Curriculum: DO NOT COMPLETE this section!** We will let you know if you need to complete a background check...whether you are a new employee or new volunteer or in need of renewal. Background checks are good for six years.

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## **NO COMPUTER? Need assistance in completing the Safe Environment Training?**

**Safe environment training help will be offered one day only: Monday, August 22**

Christine Lemmer and Jackie Rezac (local safe environment coordinators) will offer assistance at the **John Paul II School Computer Lab on Monday, August 22** from 10:00am-12:00pm and again from 4:30-6:30pm; plan for one hour.

**Questions?** Contact Christine at [clemmer@ffmitchell.com](mailto:clemmer@ffmitchell.com) or 996-3842