

KEEPING OUR PROMISE TO PROTECT

Child and Youth Protection



FOR VOLUNTEERS WITH NO VIRTUS® ACCOUNT

Dear Volunteer:

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to providing a safe environment for children, youth, and vulnerable adults. The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph requires all volunteers who will be in contact with children/youth 3 or more times in a calendar year, or who will be supervising minors or vulnerable adults, to comply with our safe environment program requirements. These requirements include the following and are documented in a VIRTUS® account:

1. Attendance at a VIRTUS® *Protecting God's Children* workshop within 60 days of beginning service
2. Reading and acknowledging commitment to the Diocesan Code of Ethics – *Ethics and Integrity in Ministry* (EIM)
3. Providing consent to a background screening every 5 years with service contingent upon screening results
4. Completion of the Volunteer Application found on pages 27 & 28 of the EIM if you are new to your parish or school.

Special Note: If you have previously attended a *Protecting God's Children* workshop in our diocese or another diocese, you do NOT need to establish a new VIRTUS® account. Please email ocyp@diocesekcsj.org to request assistance.

Please follow these steps to establish your VIRTUS® account and meet our safe environment program requirements. **Please use a laptop or PC as the process is not fully supported by using a smart phone or tablet such as an iPad.** We recommend that you allow 30-40 minutes to complete this process.

1. Go to www.virtus.org and click on "Registration" on the left side of the page.
2. Click on the green arrow for "Begin the registration process."
3. Click on the down arrow to find "Kansas City-St. Joseph," highlight it, and click "Select."
4. Follow the instructions to create your user ID and password and continue the registration process.
5. Read and acknowledge your commitment to the EIM.
6. Pre-register to attend a *Protecting God's Children* workshop. (You will be able to review a list of available workshops and select the one that is most convenient for you to attend.)
7. Enter your data and provide your consent for a background screening.

The Office of Child and Youth Protection (OCYP) is available to assist you if you should have questions or concerns as you complete this safe environment screening process. You may email us at ocyp@diocesekcsj.org or contact one of us directly. Thank you for being a part of our safety net of protection for children, youth, and vulnerable adults.