

A message from

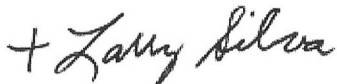
The Most Reverend Larry Silva, Bishop of Honolulu

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In 2002, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops developed the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. This document guides our efforts to promote healing and reconciliation with victims/survivors of sexual abuse of minors by clergy, religious or Church workers. It outlines an effective response to allegations of sexual abuse, calls for more effective screening of those entering service in the Church, and provides for education for clergy and others who have contact with minors or who are in a position of trust in the Church.

We affirm to work diligently to prevent the sexual abuse of minors. We pray forgiveness from those persons who were abused as minors by clergy, religious or Church workers, and we pray that the healing power of Christ may touch them. We thank God for our children and youth and commit ourselves to care for them as gifts of God's love.

SINCERELY YOURS IN CHRIST,



THE MOST REVEREND LARRY SILVA

What is child sexual abuse?

Child sexual abuse includes harm (or threatened harm) to a child, age 17 or younger, resulting from:

sexual contact or conduct which includes sex acts, incest (sex between family members), touching a child on the breasts, genitals, or buttocks, or the clothing covering them, having the child sexually touch another person, voyeurism; e.g., watching a child bathing or changing clothes or exposing ones genitals to a child; **sexual exploitation** which includes activities like preparing, selling, distributing, or possessing pornographic materials that involve children, child prostitution, and situations where the child is used for the sexual gratification of others.

To make a report

If you suspect a child is being sexually abused, contact the Department of Human Services (DHS)/ Child Welfare Services (CWS)
Available 24 hrs. a day/ 7 days a week

Oahu:

808-832-5300

Neighbor Islands:

1-800-494-3991

If you believe the child is in immediate danger, **call 911.**

Who should report child sexual abuse?

- A parent or guardian who has reason to believe their child has been sexually abused is encouraged to report.
- A person who is being sexually abused should make a report.
- A mandated reporter who has reason to believe that child abuse or neglect will occur in the reasonably foreseeable future, must immediately report the matter to Child Welfare Services or to the Police Department.

Mandated reporters include licensed healing arts or health-related professionals; employees or officers of any public or private school; employees or officers of any public or private agency or institution, or other individuals providing social, medical, hospital, or mental health services, including financial assistance; employees or officers in a law enforcement agency; child care providers; medical examiners or coroners; employees of any public or private agency providing recreational or sports activities.