

# CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Be a Part of the Safety Net of Protection for Children

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph • April 2018



## WHAT'S YOUR HASHTAG?

Time magazine named the #MeToo movement its "person" of the year for 2017, recognizing the men and women who raised their voices against abuse as the "silence breakers". This movement sparked conversations and changes in workplaces, at universities, in athletic programs and much more. These conversations also helped survivors break the silence, fear and shame that accompanies sexual abuse.

**#supportthevoice #listenforsigns #talktoyourkids #beapartofthesolution**

### #JOINTHECONVERSATION

#### DID YOU KNOW?

- 1:4 girls and 1:6 boys will be sexually abused by the age of 18
- Abusers of children are people we know and trust
- 73% of child sexual abuse victims do not tell anyone for at least a year
- 45% of victims do not tell anyone for at least 5 years
- Some victims wait decades to disclose while some never disclose their abuse
- Predators entice children online through games, apps and sites they frequent
- Online enticement of children is rising exponentially: More than 10.2 million reports of suspected child sexual exploitation were received in 2017 by the Cyber Tipline operated by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children

*"He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds."*

(Psalms 147:3)

### #PRAY

#### Participate in the Annual Diocesan Day of Prayer in Atonement and for Healing

April 26, 12:15PM

- Attend mass presided by Bishop James V. Johnston Jr. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

### #PREVENTION

#### SUPPORT OUR PROMISE TO PROTECT

- Attend a VIRTUS® Protecting God's Children Workshop
- Teach children how to be safe online - Netsmartz.org
- Learn how to protect child athletes - safetocompete.org
- Watch for warning signs and take action - preventchildabuse.org
- Trust your instincts – If you see something, say something!
- Report all suspicions of child abuse to the civil authorities
- 800-392-3738 Missouri Child Abuse Hotline

### #HEALING

#### SUPPORT THOSE WHO ARE HURTING

- Recognize the impact of sexual abuse
- Offer care, compassion, and prayers for those who suffer - thehealingvoicesnewsletter.wordpress.com
- Pray the rosary
- If you are a survivor of sexual abuse and would like support, please contact Kathleen Chastain for resources



## OFFICE OF CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION

#### Carrie Cooper

Director of Child and Youth Protection  
816.714.2380  
cooper@diocesekcsj.org

#### Kathleen Chastain

Victim Services Coordinator  
816.392.0011  
victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org

#### Sherry Huffman

Safe Environment Program Coordinator  
816.714.2394  
huffman@diocesekcsj.org

#### Jenifer Valenti

Independent Ombudsman  
816.812.2500  
jenifervalenti@att.net