

Safeguarding for SVDP Members



What

“Safeguarding is the act of protecting from harm people who are vulnerable. It involves reducing and preventing risks of harm.”

- SVDP National initiative to protect vulnerable persons... children, youth, elderly, those with physical and/or emotional disabilities
- All SVDP members now required to be “safe environment certified” with background screening, training & signing Safeguarding policy
- Safeguarding has been required for all church and school employees

Background

Pope Francis March 2019 Apostolic Letter

“The protection of minors and vulnerable persons is an integral part of the Gospel message that the Church and its members are called to proclaim throughout the world”



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| June 2021 | SVDP National Board resolution for local SVDP Councils to formulate a Safeguarding policy and implement appropriate practices |
| Sept 2023 | SVDP Milwaukee Archdiocese Council approves Safeguarding policy |
| Nov 2023 | SVDP MKE District Council directs Conferences to implement Safeguarding with all members to be certified under the CMGConnect program |

Why Safeguarding

All those that we/SVDP Vincentians serve are considered individuals in need and deemed to be “vulnerable persons”

- Training to ensure vulnerable individuals & volunteers are safe
- Education as to appropriate boundaries and safe haven practices

How Achieve

CMGConnect Program for Safe Environment Certification

- Internet on-line training from Catholic Mutual Group (CMG) used by Catholic church and schools throughout USA & Canada
- Members access & set-up account with User Name & Password
- Complete self-training program <https://svdpmilw.cmgconnect.org>

CMGConnect Components

Safeguarding Program Training Modules

- Part A- Background check (10 minutes)
 - Provide personal information
- Part B- Videos & Questions (2 hours)
 - Watch 5 videos, answer questions
 - Read/e-signature Safeguarding Policy



Safe Environment Certification for 5 years