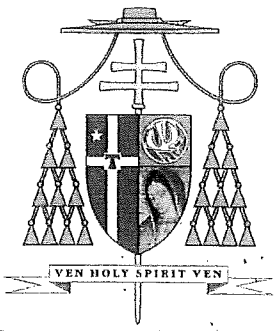


ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN ANTONIO

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OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

February 2011

My brothers and sisters in Christ,

The Archdiocese of San Antonio is unconditionally committed to the protection of children and youth within our community. In order to assure that children and youth are protected from harm, it has been mandated that all adults who minister to children must receive abuse prevention education. It is also mandated that all children and youth enrolled in religious education or in Catholic Schools be trained in abuse prevention.

The Archdiocese of San Antonio has developed Safe Environment Training for children, youth, and adults. Children learn the Yello Dyno method of abuse prevention, which educates them on how to avoid dangerous situations and how to seek help from a trusted adult. This training is intended to educate, inform, and empower. Youth will learn the Child Lures Prevention program, which helps them learn to identify lures. The training for adults includes learning how to identify abuse and how to report abuse.

The Archdiocese cannot protect all children and youth alone; it is important that all Catholics ensure that we are following the mandate of Jesus, and "Let the little children come to Me." All adults, including parents, are encouraged to receive Safe Environment Training at your local parish or Catholic School. Children and youth need trusted and loving adults in whom they can confide any concern or fear.

We have chosen to act vigorously against interpersonal violence. If you have any questions or ideas of ways to create a Safe Environment in your parish, school, and institution, please call the Office of Victim Assistance & Safe Environment at 210-734-7786 or toll free at 1-877-700-1888 and get involved. This is a responsibility we all must accept in order to protect all of God's children.

With every best wish, I remain sincerely yours in the Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Garcia-Siller".

Most Reverend Gustavo García-Siller, M.Sp.S.
Archbishop of San Antonio