### SCOTTISH CATHOLIC SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS AGENCY



### SAFEGUARDING DAY FOR RELIGIOUS CONGREGATIONS

15<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023

PARTICIPANTS: 97 EVALUATIONS SUBMITTED: 65



### **Additional Comments:**

- 1. New participants:
- Learned a lot they were unaware of
- Appreciated the opportunity to learn

### 2. Existing Leads/Religious with safeguarding experience:

- It was more of a refresher
- It is good to be refreshed

### 3. General feedback:

- It was helpful in raising awareness of the importance of safeguarding, and safeguarding related networking events
- There was a sense of "joined up thinking"—i.e. a whole Church approach
- The presentations were helpful with a good review of principles and experiences
- The information given was good
- More small group work would have been helpful
- More real life situations would have been helpful



### Additional comments:

- A lot was learned
- It was very helpful and highlighted how much still needs to be learned
- More training input would have been good
- Some already fully appreciate the importance of safeguarding but acknowledge that it has to keep being emphasised to remind people of personal responsibilities
- The clarity and practice of procedure was well defined
- More specific advice for particular pastoral situations would have been helpful

# HOW HELPFUL WAS KEY SAFEGUARDING MESSAGES IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR CATHOLIC FAITH?



### **Additional Comments:**

- It was an excellent presentation and very helpful
- It was concise and a strategic reminder of the purpose and processes involved with safeguarding
- The emphasis on safeguarding not being about ticking boxes was welcomed
- It was good to return to In God's Image and reflect specifically on it
- Technical issues with sound and lighting were unfortunate
- Thankful that there was a deeper clarification about key safeguarding issues particular to Religious and Clergy
- Helped participants to be vigilant particularly while dealing with vulnerable adults
- One participant reported that as a missionary serving 57 years in Africa, they have realised that this culture is very intricate and complex



### **Additional Comments:**

- It was an excellent, honest, powerful, hope-inspiring talk that touched participants' hearts very significantly
- Fr Chad's humility, sincerity and courage moved people considerably and many participants wish to pass on their gratitude
- The noise from the kitchen and the tables being cleared was unfortunate and several participants reported sorrow that Fr Chad had to contend with that level of noise during his talk
- It was considered important to hear from a congregation who has gone through the trauma of abuse being disclosed and how they have coped with it
- More sessions of this type would be helpful
- Many participants wished to acknowledge Fr Chad's generosity and courage in sharing his community's experiences
- Some participants reported feeling more hopeful and joyful at being part of a Church which is able to gain humility and love from a negative experience and public humiliation

## WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT/WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE INCLUDED IN NEXT YEAR'S SESSION?

- Perhaps more discussion of a wide range of challenging memories to reflect on how concerned we should be in different cases.
- I would like to learn about other forms of abuse apart from sexual abuse.
- Spiritual Abuse
- Possibly invite a survivor to speak.
- Input from a victim if possible.
- Supporting Victims
- Care management of the accused.
- How to deal with false accusations and how to help those who have been accused unjustly.
- How to support communities/individual members of the religious who have known/worked with perpetrators; are we willing to share with other communities?
- More opportunities to share information, good practice and experience; time very short.
- Responding to allegations
- How to grow from our experience in this culture.
- Dealing with cultural differences.
- Take to a deeper level.
- More scenarios.
- Use of Social Media
- Presentation for new recruits
- Training/ongoing formation for parish safeguarding representatives.
- What is on offer for on-going training on-line.
- Appreciate the updates that we share from time to time.
- Community life post Vatican II and pre Vatican II regarding safeguarding one another.
- Whatever is new in safeguarding to be explained easily to understand.
- Appropriate boundaries in exercising pastoral ministry.
- Relationship with others i.e. respect, understanding.
- Legal aspects.
- To be more open.
- I would like to know more about the situations within the Church and how the Religious Communities have changed.

### ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS?

- Many participants gave thanks to the SCSSA and speakers for a day that was very well organised, most reflective and inspiring
- It was very worthwhile and helpful knowledge to gain in pastoral ministry
- It met expectations
- It was good to meet many other Religious from across Scotland
- An acknowledgement of the presence of victims in the room should be given
- More trigger warnings should have been given
- It was a time of reflection in Spirit and truth
- It helped to dispel a bit of fear and we are open to ongoing learning from survivors
- It helped participants to learn from others and also improve for the better
- Some participants were familiar with most of the messages from previous training sessions but it was good and helpful to hear the emphasis from the revised version of IGI
- The liturgy was beautiful
- Time pressure in the afternoon was created by the length of the homily and in future years this should be taken into account when planning the afternoon session
- The healing service was very moving and much appreciated
- It would have been good if the Chair of the SCSSA had been present
- The venue was good