

Youth Volunteering In Parish and School Programs

Youth who are volunteers in parish programs and have access to children are required to receive awareness training in order for all to be in compliance with the Diocesan policy. Awareness training can be provided by using the *Diocesan Children's Curriculum Valuing God's Gifts in Ourselves and Others* which is taught yearly to students through the parish schools and religious programs. Parents are to be informed of lesson plans, content and provide written permission *prior* to administering your training.

Protecting God's Children for Adults is, as the title implies, geared toward adults. You may use this program with youth **however**, you will need to advise the parents of the program and obtain their written permission first. It would be best if parents and children attended the awareness session together so they are both aware of the content.

If a minor accompanies a parent who is volunteering in a respite or homebound ministry the minor needs to be supervised and in the presence of the parent at all times.