



Diocese of San Bernardino

Office of Child & Youth Protection



Vision Statement

The Office of Child and Youth Protection follows the vision of our Diocese – *“filling lives with hope” and-*

We create safe environments where children, youth, and adults gather joyfully and confidently for prayer, catechesis, social and faith sharing. With renewed hope and courage, they meet the challenges of modern day culture. They value life and model nonviolent lives, accept the diversity among us, and have generous spirits to serve others.

We create safe environments that bring the good news of the Jesus to the people and the places where we live. People choose to live their lives so that others recognize the spirit of Christ living within us and local communities are evangelized. Our office activities are opportunities to deepen our faith and connect our actions to the teachings of Jesus.

We create safe environments that recognize that we are a *Pentecost Church* comprised of many languages, formed from different cultures, ethnic groups and experiences of Church. Unity in diversity demonstrates we are committed to building inclusive, safe, and faith filled communities for all. We meet this on-going challenge, of the demanding efforts to provide information, formation, and training according to the uniqueness and needs of each group and culture.

As good stewards of God's gifts, we identify, encourage and develop our resources in a creative, productive manner to assist parishes, schools and Diocesan entities in matters related to children, young people and vulnerable adults' protection; To live a life as a steward is to commit ourselves to the Church's mission with our time, talent, and treasure.

Committed Diocesan personnel and volunteers offer comprehensive services for the prevention of abuse and provide healing ministries for meaningful change in people's lives

As leaders, we commit ourselves to encourage participation by everyone in all possible aspect of diocesan life, but especially in areas of leadership. We commit ourselves to provide leadership training and ministry formation, especially in the area of safe environments, for lay persons in our parishes and schools. We encourage new, creative models of ministry and leadership.

Our organizational structures empower participation, promote networking, and facilitate collaboration between our office and entities throughout the Diocese as well with outside organizations such as the NCCB. This encourages parish and school communities to foster safe environments. We provide support and assistance for the development of safe environments where programs and activities are developed. This will enable parishes and schools to collaborate, share resources, offer mutual support, and address common Issues related to the protection of children.