

## Conclusions from Survey carried out in 2014

- ✚ Across the Franciscan Province of Ireland there was a very encouraging response to this survey, with 2,960 individuals participating.
- ✚ Of the 2,960 respondents, there is a higher percentage of people (56%) who remain unaware of the work of the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland (NBSCCCI).
- ✚ The Church's communication regarding Safeguarding is reflected as high as 70% in one location and as low as 41% in another location.
- ✚ Franciscan communication regarding Safeguarding is reflected as high as 69% in one location and as low as 45% in another location.
- ✚ The survey does suggest that there needs to be an improvement in both the Church's and the Franciscan communication regarding Safeguarding.
- ✚ While 63% of respondents would know how to go about reporting allegations and suspicions of child abuse, 68% do not know where to find the names of the Designated Liaison Person (DLP) in their area.
- ✚ A significant 90% of respondents across the Province believe that Child Protection Training should be made available to everyone.
- ✚ The overall response to the survey was positive with a significant number of individuals acknowledging and welcoming this initiative.
- ✚ Making "Safeguarding Sunday" an annual occurrence can continue to raise awareness and to encourage ongoing dialogue in regard to Safeguarding children (and vulnerable adults).
- ✚ A similar survey should be carried out in three years.

*Thank you for supporting our work and for helping us to recognise some of the areas where improvements in Safeguarding children can be made...*



## Franciscan Province of Ireland Safeguarding Newsletter

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2015

*We are united in our responsibility for safeguarding children.  
We all share in the privilege of doing everything we can to ensure that children can grow up in environments where they are loved, nurtured, respected & free from the risks of any form of abuse.*



Hugh McKenna  
Provincial, OFM

I welcome this opportunity to communicate with you again through this newsletter with regard to Safeguarding in our Friaries. We recognise that while a lot has been done, we must continue to be attentive to ensuring policies, procedures and practices are up-to-date and compliant with National standards. At this time, I'm pleased to be able to inform you that the recommendations made to us following the Audit by the National Board have all been implemented.

It is a year since our last Safeguarding Sunday when we also took the opportunity to carry out a survey on your experience of Safeguarding children and the numbers of respondents was a welcome surprise to us. The Franciscan Community in Ireland would like to thank you for the feedback and support your responses offered. We have learnt a great deal out of this survey and with your continued support we can all continue to grow and develop in the area of Safeguarding children. We hope that you might have had a chance to see the entire results from the survey that have been made available in all our Friaries. For today, we have included the Conclusions overleaf for you to see and consider.

The work of the Safeguarding Committee has continued to grow and develop as we've responded to the recommendations of the Audit and as we've listened to the responses of all those who participated in our 2014 survey.

Our Safeguarding Monitors, Marana and Monica have continued to visit each of the Friaries to ensure that what needs to be in place, is in place and that the personnel required to maintain Safeguarding standards at local level are also in position. There has also been the requirement for all Friars and those working directly with children to renew their Safeguarding Training and this has been facilitated by setting up training days in three separate locations across the Province.

And speaking of Training, you will be glad to hear that we have listened to the incredible response from the survey last year where 90% of those who participated stated clearly that Safeguarding (Child Protection) Training should be made available to everyone. When the revised Safeguarding Standards are published in 2016 by the National Board for Safeguarding Children, we will be planning training in locations across the Province that everyone who would like to attend can do so.

Looking forward to perhaps meeting you at one of the trainings,

The Franciscan Safeguarding Committee