



10 **Ten** **Ways**

to prevent child abuse

1

Teach children how to help keep themselves safe and protected.

2

Open lines of communication with our children so they can talk about their concerns.

3

Maintain safe environment compliance certifications for people who have contact with or access to our children.

4

Examine our own behavior and ensure that we, as safe adults, model appropriate boundaries and behavior for our children and the children in our ministries.

5

Minimize opportunities for abuse or violation of boundaries. Choose group settings where possible. Monitor children's internet use.

6

Discipline children thoughtfully and calmly, not when the adult caregiver is angry.

7

Recognize signs and symptoms of child abuse—remember five steps taught in the Safe Environment Awareness sessions.

8

Report concerns for abuse.

9

Invest in our children. Give your time and talent and cultivate healthy relationships with the children in our Diocese.

10

Encourage parental participation in children and youth activities.

