

# ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

By means of notice, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Dubuque wishes to make more widely known its program for assistance to people who were/are childhood victims of sexual abuse by clergy or other Church personnel. The program provides the services of a Victim Assistance Coordinator and was established in response to the archdiocese's "Policy for the Protection of Minors."

The program is staffed by Victim Assistance Coordinator (VAC) Dr. Stephen Frommelt. Dr. Frommelt possesses a doctorate degree and has received training in matters related to sexual abuse and intervention with victims of abuse. He also has pastoral experience. Dr. Frommelt is not an employee of the archdiocese but is under contract to the Archdiocese of Dubuque to provide his services.

The function of a VAC is to provide a pastoral presence to victims and their families. A VAC receives allegations of abuse, makes reports to civil authorities, and facilitates assistance for the victim. The services provided by a VAC may also include referral for professional mental health services, referral to social service agencies or support groups, and/or referral for spiritual care.

The focus of the program is the emotional and spiritual well-being and healing of those affected by the sexual misconduct of clergy and other personnel of the archdiocese.



ARCHDIOCESE of DUBUQUE

**Allegations of current and past abuse may be made by calling Dr. Stephen Frommelt at (563) 584-3000.**

Allegations of abuse may also be made to civil authorities, or the Iowa Child Abuse Reporting line (800-362-2178) or the Archdiocese of Dubuque at 800-876-3546.