

# Praesidium Standards for Accreditation (2012)

*NB: Praesidium uses the word “Institute” to represent the organization being evaluated. In this instance, the Institute is Subiaco Abbey.*

## **Standard 1**

The Institute will screen new Candidates for membership in the Institute.

## **Standard 2**

At each stage in the initial formation of Members, the Institute will assist in their ongoing growth toward a healthy sexuality as a foundation for celibate chastity.

## **Standard 3**

The Institute will identify and utilize systems of support and accountability for its Members.

## **Standard 4**

The Institute will establish and publish clear policies for boundaries with minors.

## **Standard 5**

The Institute will educate its Members regarding the prevalence, identification, and prevention of sexual abuse of minors, giving special attention to topics that are of unique relevance to religious.

## **Standard 6**

The Institute will interrupt and intervene when a Member violates the Institute’s policies regarding boundaries with minors.

## **Standard 7**

The Institute will offer to provide support and assistance to any Member who discloses to leadership concerns about his own attraction to minors or about potential boundary violations with minors.

## **Standards for Responding (Standards 8 –18)**

### **Standard 8**

Representatives of the Institute will respond pastorally and compassionately to any person who alleges sexual abuse of a minor by a Member of the Institute.

**Standard 9**

Representatives of the Institute who are responsible for assisting individuals who have alleged sexual abuse as a minor will be educated regarding the nature of their role.

**Standard 10**

Representatives of the Institute will make a significant effort to promote the healing process for individuals who allege being sexually abused as a minor.

**Standard 11**

The Institute will adhere to written protocols for responding to reports and allegations of sexual abuse of a minor.

**Standard 12**

The Institute's policy will state the obligation of each of its Members to report to civil authorities all allegations of known or suspected sexual abuse of a victim who is currently a minor.

**Standard 13**

The Institute will report known or suspected sexual abuse of a minor by a Member when the victim is no longer a minor, as obligated by the civil laws of the state where the sexual abuse of the minor allegedly occurred.

**Standard 14**

The Institute will investigate all reports and allegations of sexual abuse of minors by a Member, to the extent possible, based on the information provided.

**Standard 15**

The Institute will cooperate with civil authorities that are conducting an investigation of an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor.

**Standard 16**

The Institute will document all reports and allegations of sexual abuse of minors by a Member, and its responses to the reports and allegations, including anonymous allegations and reports.

**Standard 17**

The Institute will utilize a Review Board for the purpose of providing consultation to the Major Superior on the response to all reports and allegations of sexual abuse of minors.

**Standard 18**

In cases where an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor committed by a Member has been established, the Institute will inform the leadership of any organization or ministry in which the Member has admitted to, or is suspected of, having sexually

abused a minor, to the extent possible.

## **Standards for Supervisions (Standards 19-25)**

### **Standard 19**

The Institute will maintain a written, individualized Safety Plan to guide the supervision of any Member against whom an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor has been established.

### **Standard 20**

When the sexual abuse of a minor by a Member has been established, the Member will not be permitted to work in any position which allows access to minors, or in any ecclesiastical ministry, in accordance with the Essential Norms for Diocesan/Eparchial Policies Dealing with Allegations of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Priests or Deacons.

### **Standard 21**

The Review Board will review each Safety Plan at least annually and offer recommendations to the Major Superior.

### **Standard 22**

Individuals who supervise Members who have Safety Plans will be physically and emotionally capable and adequately trained to perform the duties involved in supervision.

### **Standard 23**

Those who supervise Members who have Safety Plans will have access to all pertinent information about the Member that is not otherwise privileged.

### **Standard 24**

The Major Superior or his delegate will annually evaluate compliance with all Safety Plans.

### **Standard 25**

Communities that house “high-risk” Members will be visited by outside auditors on an unannounced basis to ensure consistent implementation of Safety Plan protocols.