

In regard to child abuse, Wisconsin State law (S48.981) includes any clergy, member of religious order/ congregation, school staff, counselor, nurse, child care worker, or related professional among those listed as mandated reporters.

In the Diocese of Superior, all catechists and volunteers who work with children or youth within the programs offered by the parishes or diocese are mandated-to-report.

Mandated reporters and those mandated-to-report by the Diocese of Superior who have reasonable cause (that set of facts which would cause a reasonable prudent person to conclude that abuse will occur or has occurred) to suspect child abuse or who have reason to believe that a child has been threatened with abuse and that the abuse will occur, are obligated to report the case as soon as possible but within 24 hours, by telephone or personal visit to the local county child welfare agency, the office of the county sheriff or the city police department.

*If there is reasonable cause to believe that the child is in imminent danger, both mandated reporters and those mandated-to-report are to immediately contact law enforcement via 911 to keep the child from further harm.*

A list of phone numbers for social services and law enforcement for all 16 counties of the Diocese of Superior is found on the next page and also in the "Report Suspicions of Abuse" handout found in Tab 3 of this binder.