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December 2024



Welcome to our first newsletter

Thanks to the collective efforts of members and subscribers in our respective countries, universities, churches and other workplaces, we have continued to shine a light on the experiences of victims and survivors.

We applaud your individual initiatives around the globe that focus on finding solutions and learning more about how to improve safeguarding within organisations, how to offer accountability to the public and, most importantly, how to keep children and young people safe.

We come from all corners of the world and share the same passion about how to prevent child sexual abuse. We may be separated by our geographic and cultural and political differences, but we are joined in our aim to raise awareness of what we know about safeguarding practices that work. It is exciting to be part of this small but growing organisation - nine founding members and over 300 subscribers – with exciting plans initiated and a few achievements in 2024.

Members of the Alliance published their first joint paper on a **global study of the safeguarding capability of adults in Catholic Church ministries**. Congratulations to the authors on this study. Other members worked on promoting the **Loud Fence** movement that began in Australia and is gaining momentum in other countries, particularly in the UK - this project helps survivors of child sexual abuse connect and feel empowered in their community. And the annual **International Safeguarding Conference** held in Rome continues to draw presenters and delegates from all over the globe, with the focus this year on safeguarding and disability; in 2025 the theme will be: Women of faith, women of strength.

We are pleased to share with you some of our other activities over the past year.

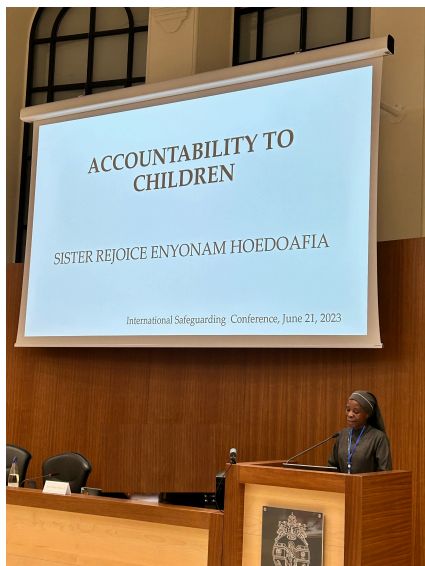


Webinars

In 2024, we presented three webinars (recordings available in links below) held across multiple time zones.

Presenters and attendees from all over the globe tuned in, engaged with challenging issues, and asked tough questions during Q&A time.

1. **What is a good measure?** presented by Gabrielle Hunt, PhD Candidate and Researcher, Institute of Child Protection Studies, Australian Catholic University, 25 March.
2. **Global study of Church leaders and safeguarding capabilities**, presented by Douglas Russell, PhD Candidate and Senior Researcher, Institute of Child Protection Studies, Australian Catholic University, 24 September.
3. **Boundary breaking: the crisis of child sexual abuse in the Catholic community in England and Wales**, presented by Dr Marcus Pound, A/Professor of Catholic Theology at Durham University, 10 December.



Spotlight on Sr Rejoice

We'd like to introduce you to **Sr Rejoice Enyonam Hoedoafia**, PhD, a member of the Global Safeguarding Alliance. Her compassion and sense of justice drives her advocacy for safeguarding children. She has worked with people involved with the Church and contributes to research initiatives of the Alliance.

Sr Rejoice has been a member of the safeguarding committee of the Catholic Archdiocese of Tamale in Ghana since 2000. Meeting people who have experienced traumatic situations, particularly abuse, challenged her to work for the protection of children and to advocate for social systems and safe environments for young people to thrive.

[Read more](#)



Christmas greetings

Whatever you love about Christmas - sitting in front of a crackling fire, lying on a beach, opening Christmas gifts, listening to Christmas carols sung by angelic voices, going to midnight Mass, or resting your eyes and opening your heart on the hope and simplicity of a baby in a nativity scene - we hope you have a joyous and peaceful festive season.

Have a wonderful time over the next few weeks.

Stay safe and see you in the new year of 2025.



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