



PATHWAYS RESPONSE V I C T O R I A

Compassion | Respect | Accountability | Fairness

Pathways Victoria provides a compassionate, just and trauma-informed response to reports of current or historical abuse within the Catholic Church in Victoria.

Pathways covers a wide range of abuse by Church personnel, including sexual abuse, neglect or maltreatment, physical or psychological abuse and sexual misconduct.

We are committed to responding to those hurt and affected with a sense of transparency, accountability, and a culture of safety.

It is never too late to report abuse that happened a long time ago.

Deciding to report your experience of abuse many years later is quite common. We understand that most people who experience abuse delay telling anyone, or may never tell anyone.

It doesn't matter whether the abuse occurred hours, weeks, months, years or decades ago. Our dedicated staff will respond to you in a person centred way.

We encourage you to report regardless of when the abuse occurred. Even if you think or know the accused is deceased.

Reporting to Police

We strongly encourage you to report to Police in the first instance. In some cases, if you disclose abuse to us, we are required to do this. To report something that has happened, please call 000, or attend your local police station.

Reports of child sexual abuse (either historical or current) can be made to SANO Taskforce via:

1800 110 007

sanotaskforce@police.vic.gov.au

To disclose something that has happened to you or someone you care about please contact Pathways at:

03 7064 3940
info@pathwaysvictoria.com

More information about Pathways can be found at:

www.pathwaysvictoria.com



3 STEP RESPONSE

PATHWAYS RESPONSE VICTORIA

ENGAGEMENT

When you contact Pathways, we will connect you to a Care Coordinator who can provide you with:

- information about our service
- support to disclose to Police
- access to external counsellors
- assistance to navigate Pathways

You may have a support person of your choice and/or a legal representative throughout your engagement with us.

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RESPONSE

We will meet with you to listen to your experience and offer you a safe space to share your story.

We acknowledge that telling us about what happened can be difficult. Our staff are specialists who are trained to understand the complex and diverse experiences of people who are victim-survivors of institutional abuse. We will listen without judgement and treat you with dignity and respect.

We will review your disclosure and may appoint an independent investigator to provide an impartial review of the details and circumstances disclosed.

Your Care Coordinator will keep you informed of the progress throughout the investigation, and will be available for any questions or concerns you may have. We will listen to how you prefer to be communicated with - by phone, email, in person, or through your support person. If it is your preference, we will provide you with continued therapeutic supports while you engage with us.

Our communication regarding outcomes and decisions reached in your matter will involve transparency and clarity. You will have the opportunity to ask questions about the outcomes at each step. We will provide opportunity for you to express your feedback to us.

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RESOLUTION

Whilst we can't take the pain and trauma away from those who have experienced abuse, Pathways seeks to offer some resolution through access to a:

- Monetary payment
- Acknowledgement and apology from representatives of the responsible Church Authority that is tailored to your experience

You will be in control of how resolution may occur, and we will listen to your preferences.