

## UPDATED CHILD PROTECTION POLICY FOR IRELAND

Revised June 2010

We the sisters of Our Lady of the Missions, recognise the personal dignity and rights of children and of vulnerable adults towards whom we have a special responsibility and duty of care. We undertake to do all in our power to create a safe environment for children, young people and vulnerable adults and to protect them from any form of abuse, neglect or bullying. We will liaise closely with Church and statutory agencies to ensure that any allegations of abuse are promptly and properly dealt with, victims supported and perpetrators held to account and assisted to live offence free lives.

We have signed up to the "REVISED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING" (copy attached) where we have agreed to abide by the Standards and Guidance Document for the Catholic Church in Ireland 'Safeguarding Children'. This standards and guidance document has been commissioned and produced by the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic church.

The Board consists of Jan Elliott-CEO National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church.

Bishop Eamon Walsh

Father John Carroll

Sister Colette Stevenson

Sister Helen O'Riardon

Jim Tracey, NSPCC

It has been approved by the Irish Bishops' Conference;

The Conference of Religious of Ireland and the Irish Missionary Union.

A copy of this document, a copy of the Revised Memorandum of Understanding and a copy of the Safeguarding Policy which was prepared by our Congregation, some three years ago will be available in all our Convents in Ireland, together with the name and phone number of the person responsible for Child Protection in the Country. This will also be available to all who work with children or vulnerable adults. A clearance from the Gardai in the South of Ireland and a CRB clearance in Northern Ireland will be a prerequisite for all who have contact with children or vulnerable adults in Ireland.

Congregation of Our Lady of the Missions

Safeguarding Representative

*Sr. Mary Foley*

Sister Mary Foley