

ECHO of Cape Cod
Encountering Christ in Others
www.echoofcapecod.org

January 21, 2020

Dear Friends,

We are writing this note because of news that came to us over the weekend. We have learned that two Diocesan Priests have been accused of improper behavior with young people. Though this news is sad in and of itself, it becomes more so because the details given in regard to one of the priests indicates that it may have taken place in connection with an ECHO retreat.

In fact, the ECHO they are referring to is a different program, which, though sharing our name, is distinct from us. ECHO of Cape Cod, though sharing roots with the ECHO program referred to in the newspaper article, became independent in 1972. Since that time, we have been directed by a wholly separate board and volunteers.

In 1992 and 1993, due to the surfacing of abuse accusations in other places, our directors took steps to address our program and its practices with the goal of making sure the things that had occurred in other places would not ever happen in ECHO of Cape Cod. At that time, we redesigned our structure such that the actions described in the current accusations could not have happened here.

We are concerned that our program might be confused with the one referenced in the reporting, and we want you to know that neither of those accused have ever been participants in ECHO of Cape Cod. As we said above, the news is so sad on so many levels, but we wanted to make clear that this in no way is connected to us or our program.

Please continue to pray for all involved, and that Christ's graces may help us continue the work he has shared with us to do.

In Christ,
The ECHO Board of Directors:

Tim Acton
Joe Bentley
Susan Brown
Cathy Carpenter
Fr. David Deston
Fr. Tom Frechette
Kathryn Fuller
Mary Fuller
Michael LeBrun
Heather Wesp