



BECAUSE *we are* CATHOLIC

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN MARYLAND SERVES AND ADVOCATES FOR THE POOR, VULNERABLE AND THOSE IN NEED NOT BECAUSE THEY ARE CATHOLIC, BUT BECAUSE WE ARE CATHOLIC.

A MESSAGE FROM THE MARYLAND CATHOLIC CONFERENCE
JANUARY 23, 2014

All Life is Worthy and Valued



The Catholic Coalition for Special Education sees the worth and value in every child and is devoted to ensuring that children with intellectual and physical disabilities and with special learning needs are able to attend Catholic school if they wish. In addition to granting money to schools and teachers, CCSE sponsors workshops for Catholic school educators and administrators and provides practical support to families raising a child with special needs.

CCSE serves Maryland and Washington DC and has awarded more than \$600,000.00 in grants to 23 Catholic schools over the last eight years.

Schools such as:

- **Seton Keough High School** (Baltimore) – To support the creation of the Options Program for students with intellectual disabilities including Down syndrome.
- **St. Margaret School** (Bel Air) – To support new special education services for students with developmental disabilities.
- **St. Michael School** (Ridge) – To expand the resource program serving students with low incidence disabilities.
- **St. Andrew the Apostle** (Silver Spring) – To expand the special education services to students with disabilities.

You are called to care for life in its initial stage; remind everyone, by word and deed, that this is sacred — at each phase and at every age — that it is always valuable. . . . There is no human life more sacred than another, just as there is no human life qualitatively more significant than another.

Pope Francis, September 20, 2013

CCSE encourages welcoming communities, raises disabilities awareness and promotes community participation.