



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.

How do you reach your full potential if you are a pregnant teen or an at-risk child?

[St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth and Families](#) (formerly St. Ann's Infant and Maternity Home) in Hyattsville was chartered by President Abraham Lincoln in 1864 to care for orphans, children in need and unwed mothers. It is the only organization of its kind in the Washington metropolitan area that provides comprehensive medical care in a residential setting to children in the foster care system and teen mothers.

Founded by the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul in 1860, St. Ann's remains dedicated to its mission of caring for vulnerable children and at-risk young mothers. St. Ann's provides transitional housing and supportive services to at-risk children, youth and families who are affected by abuse, neglect, teen pregnancy and homelessness. Its programs:

- **Children's Residential Program** provides emergency residential care and diagnostic services to more than 200 children who have been removed from their homes.
- **Teen Mother-Baby Program** provides housing, health care and education for expectant or new teen mothers – most of whom have been turned away by their parents or foster families.
- **Faith House** is a transitional program for motivated single mothers ages 18-25 and their children to help them achieve independence through education and career development.
- **St. Ann's Child Care Center** offers affordable, high-quality developmental day care for children, including some children in residence at St. Ann's.

“It is difficult for any girl to realize her full potential when confronted with the demands of pregnancy and parenting, low academic achievement, and poor mental and physical health. St. Ann's Teen Mother-Baby Program starts by providing a safe, supportive home where girls can get the help they need to live a healthy lifestyle, become better parents, meet their physical and mental health needs, and improve their academic situation. Regardless of whether they are with us for just a few weeks or several years, the skills, habits, and educational attainment they achieve here will be with them for the rest of their lives. Although we can't claim that all young women reach their full potential while in our care, we firmly believe that our comprehensive, life-changing program puts them on the right path toward that goal.”

– *Sister May Bader, DC, Chief Executive Officer of St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth and Families.*

(Sources: Archdiocese of Washington's Catholic Impact; St. Ann's website)