

# Maryland Nonprofits

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## THE LATEST NONPROFITS TO EARN THE “STANDARDS FOR EXCELLENCE” SEAL ANNOUNCED AT 16TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

*20 nonprofit organizations successfully completed the rigorous  
program known as “Standards for Excellence®”, the country’s premiere nonprofit self-regulation program*

**November 12, 2008**

**Baltimore, MD.** The **Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations** (Maryland Nonprofits), one of the largest state associations of nonprofits in the US with over 1,750 member organizations, announced the latest nonprofits to earn the Seal of Excellence as part of the Standards for Excellence® program at their 16th Annual Conference held on Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at the Hyatt Regency in Baltimore, Maryland. Participating in the awards ceremony were Douglas F. Gansler, Maryland’s Attorney General; Kevin Gillen, Metro President for TD Bank N.A.’s Metro Washington, D.C. and Florida market; as well as Suzanne Brace, Vice Chair of Maryland Nonprofits Ethics Standards Committee which oversees the entire review process.

These standards were specifically designed to help increase the public’s trust in Maryland nonprofit organizations by providing potential donors and volunteers with nonprofits that act ethically and are accountable in their program operations, governance, human resources, financial management and fundraising practices. The first program of its kind in the nation to promote self-regulation in the nonprofit sector, the Standards for Excellence® program provides nonprofits with clear guidance about the best practices in nonprofit operations while helping them achieve the highest standards. The Standards for Excellence® code requires strict adherence to eight guiding principles and 55 rigorous benchmarks.

The Standards for Excellence® program, which just celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, was originated by Maryland Nonprofits, and is known nationally as the Standards for Excellence® Institute. This Institute presently has ten replication partners: The Arc of the United States, Center for Nonprofit Excellence in Colorado Springs, Community Development Hub of West Virginia, Delaware Association of Nonprofit Agencies, Louisiana Association of Nonprofit Organizations, Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations, National Leadership Roundtable on Church Management, Ohio Association of Nonprofit Organizations, Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits, as well as The Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations.

### **Newly certified groups for 2008 are:**

**1000 Friends of Maryland**  
Baltimore

**The Arc of Montgomery County**  
Rockville

**Advocates for Survivors of Torture and Trauma**  
Baltimore and Wheaton

**Community Bridges**  
Silver Spring

**The Council on Quality and Leadership**  
Towson

**Jewish Foundation for Group Homes**  
Rockville

**Mosaic Community Services**  
Timonium

**Moveable Feast**  
Baltimore

**Pro Bono Counseling Center**  
Baltimore

**Worcester County GOLD**  
Snow Hill

**The nonprofits that are being recognized for earning their re-certification in 2008 are:**

**American Red Cross Central Maryland Chapter**  
Baltimore

**The Arc of Baltimore**  
Baltimore City and County

**The Arc of Howard County**  
Ellicott City

**Chrysalis House**  
Crownsville

**The Coordinating Center**  
Millersville

**Eastern Shore Land Conservancy**  
Queenstown

**Marian House**  
Baltimore

**Project PLASE**  
Baltimore

**St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore**  
Baltimore

**United Way of Central Maryland**  
Baltimore

The full list of organizations that are certified to display the Seal of Excellence include:

1000 Friends of Maryland  
Abilities Network  
Advocates for Children and Youth  
Advocates for Survivors of Torture and Trauma  
Accokeek Foundation  
Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay  
Alternative Directions Inc.  
Alzheimer's Association – Greater Maryland Chapter  
American Red Cross of Central Maryland  
The Arc of the Central Chesapeake Region  
The Arc of Baltimore  
The Arc of Howard County  
The Arc of Maryland  
The Arc of Montgomery County  
Ardmore Enterprises Inc.  
Association of Baltimore Area Grantmakers  
Association of Partners for Public Lands  
Baltimore HealthCare Access  
Baptist Family and Children's Services  
Center for Watershed Protection  
Chesapeake Habitat for Humanity  
Christian Assisted Living for Mentally Retarded Adults (CALMRA)  
Chrysalis House  
Civic Works, Inc.  
Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning  
Community Bridges  
Community Crisis Services  
The Coordinating Center  
The Council on Quality and Leadership  
Crossroads Community  
Dayspring Programs Inc.

Delaplaine Visual Arts Education Center  
Dyslexia Tutoring Program  
Eastern Shore Land Conservancy  
Franciscan Center  
Friends of the Family  
Fuel Fund of Maryland  
Girl Scouts of Central Maryland  
Goodwill Industries of the Chesapeake  
Historical Society of Harford County  
HopeWell Cancer Support  
Hospice Caring, Inc.  
The Horizon Foundation  
Hospice of the Chesapeake  
Housing Unlimited  
Humanim  
Interfaith Housing Alliance  
Jewish Foundation for Group Homes  
Langton Green  
Lutheran World Relief  
Marian House  
*Maryland Association of Community Services for Person with Developmental Disabilities*  
Maryland Association of Resources for Families and Youth (MARFY)  
Maryland Committee for Children  
Maryland Food Bank  
Maryland Library Association  
Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service  
Mosaic Community Services  
Moveable Feast  
National Kidney Foundation of Maryland  
Olney Boys & Girls Community Sports Association

Parks and People Foundation  
Paul's Place  
Preservation Maryland  
Prince George's Child Resource Center  
Pro Bono Counseling Project  
Project PLASE  
St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore  
San Mar Children's Home  
Special Olympics Maryland

Star Community  
Touchstones Discussion Project  
United Way of Central Maryland  
US Lacrosse  
Village Learning Place  
Women Entrepreneurs of Baltimore  
Worcester County Giving Others' Lives Dignity (G.O.L.D)  
YMCA of Central Maryland  
YWCA of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County

***Nationally, under the auspices of The Standards for Excellence® Institute, over 200 nonprofit organizations around the country have completed the rigorous certification process and earned the right to display the Seal of Excellence. To learn more about the national program, go to <http://www.standardsforexcellenceinstitute.org/>***

### **Standards for Excellence®**

Maryland Nonprofits' Standards for Excellence® program provides the *Standards for Excellence: An Ethics and Accountability Code for the Nonprofit Sector®* enabling nonprofits to implement sustainable high standards through educational resources, technical assistance, a network of replication partners, licensed consultants as well as the rigorous voluntary certification process.

The Standards for Excellence® is a hallmark program that was developed by a work group of over 50 nonprofit executives, board leaders and consultants from among the ranks of members from the Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations from 1996-1998. For more information contact Amy Coates Madsen, Program Director of the Standards for Excellence® program, at 410.727.1726 x14, 888.778.0780 x14, or [acmadsen@mdnonprofit.org](mailto:acmadsen@mdnonprofit.org).

Donors and the giving public interested in learning more about the Standards for Excellence® program should check out the website: <http://www.nonprofitsyoucantrust.org/> to learn both how to be a savvy donor as well as to gain more information about nonprofits in the state of Maryland that are worthy of their charitable support.

### **Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations**

The Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations, now with over 1,750 member organizations, is the one of the largest and, considered by many, one of the most effective state nonprofit associations in the country. Maryland Nonprofits, with offices in both Baltimore and Silver Spring, is recognized among policy makers, media, opinion leaders, and the general public as a leading representative and authoritative source of information about the state's nonprofit sector, and as the creator of the Standards for Excellence® program, an expert resource for education and implementation of organizational best practices. Maryland Nonprofits advocates in partnership with all sub-sectors and on behalf of the people and communities served by nonprofit organizations throughout the entire state.

To learn more about Maryland Nonprofits visit [www.marylandnonprofits.org](http://www.marylandnonprofits.org)

**Get Involved. Stay Informed. Make a Difference. ®**

**We would like to express our thanks to TD Bank whose sponsorship support enabled us to present the awards ceremony at this year's annual conference.**

