



NCPD

NATIONAL CATHOLIC PARTNERSHIP ON DISABILITY

••• *faith • giftedness • partnership*

June 27, 2022

CHARLEEN R. KATRA
Executive Director

NCPD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

* MOST REV. MICHAEL F. BURBIDGE
Episcopal Moderator
Bishop of Arlington, VA

* MICHAEL J. BOYLE, Ph.D.
Chairperson Chicago, IL

* RICK SPENCER, CPA
Treasurer Kensington, MD

* COLLEEN MCCOY-CEJKA
Secretary Scottsdale, AZ

ARACELY BAEZA
Oklahoma City, OK

FREDERICK CABRAS, OFM Cap.
Chicago, IL

MARIE HILLIARD, J.C.L., Ph.D., R.N.
Washington, DC

ERIN JEFFRIES
Indianapolis, IN

LEO ZANCHETTIN
Frederick, MD

FR. PAUL ZIRIMENYA
San Francisco, CA

* Executive Committee

REV. MICHAEL J.K. FULLER
General Secretary, USCCB
USCCB Liaison to NCPD

CATHOLIC DISABILITY FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PATRICK ROMZEK
Chairperson Detroit, MI

MICHAEL J. DEWAN
South Lyon, MI

ROBERT FUNKE
St. Louis, MO

KRISTI HASSOUNA
Detroit, MI

KEVIN JOHNSON
Orlando, FL

ANDREA KANEB
Exeter, NH

DCN. STEPHEN KANEB
Exeter, NH

PEG NICHOLLS
Morgantown, GA

Dear Bishop,

I hope you had the chance to read the letter from Bishop Michael Burbidge, Episcopal Moderator for the National Catholic Partnership on Disability (NCPD), sent to you in March. He mentioned how NCPD programs train diocesan and parish staff on developing a disability advocacy network. This year, we are happy to have launched a new online course, "Celebration of the Sacraments with Persons with Disabilities," that will help Church leaders and other ministers build their capacity to serve all persons in their home parish.

In his message on the International Day dedicated to persons with disabilities, Pope Francis affirms that "no one can refuse the Sacraments to people with disabilities." NCPD advocates for sacramental access for Catholics with disabilities across the country. The specialized knowledge and support offered by NCPD cannot be found anywhere else in the Church, and its ministry is critical to promoting faith communities that reach people of all abilities with the message of God's love.

NCPD is a national resource for an often-underserved community in our Church, and it depends in part on the support of dioceses like yours to conduct the full scope of its outreach every year. By becoming or sustaining your diocese's Affiliate membership with NCPD for the next year, you will help provide NCPD's resources

not only to your own diocese, but also to the entire Church in the U.S. **I join Bishop Burbidge in asking that you send the Affiliate membership fee of \$1,500.00 to NCPD as an investment in the upcoming fiscal year, July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023.** For additional information contact NCPD's executive director, Charleen Katra at ckatra@ncpd.org.

Sincerely in Christ,


Board Chair