



## **DISABILITIES**

### **NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

The following organizations operate on the national (or international) level and offer excellent information and resources.

**1) Faith and Light**

Faith and Light is an international, Christian, ecumenical movement located in 75 countries on five continents comprising more than 1350 communities. This movement supports persons with developmental disabilities, their families and friends who gather regularly as local communities. Faith and Light was founded by Jean Vanier and Marie-Helene Mathieu in France in 1971. It was born in a Roman Catholic context out of a desire to belong and out of the pain of rejection and it is growing worldwide through the hope that awakens among those who experience its dynamic spirituality. One of the goals of Faith and Light is to integrate its members in the churches.

**Contact:**

Faith and Light USA East  
Debbie and Bill Cramsie, National Coordinators  
2780 Timbercreek Circle  
Boca Raton, Florida 33431  
Fax: 561-443-9587  
E-Mail: FAITHANDLIGHTUSAEAST@AOL.COM

**Faith and Light West**

Maria Cecilia de F.C. Buckley and Tim S. Buckley  
2512 South University Blvd. #811  
Denver, CO 80210  
E-Mail: TSMCBUCKLEY@USWEST.NET

**2) International Order of Alhambra**

The International Order of Alhambra is a fraternal organization of Catholic men dedicated to assisting persons with developmental disabilities and mental retardation by providing assistance, education and residences. Contact: [www.orderalhambra.org](http://www.orderalhambra.org)

**3) National Apostolate for Inclusion Ministry**

Called together as persons with and without mental retardation, the National Apostolate for Inclusion Ministry (NAFIM), witnesses to the Good News that all persons are created in God's image and likeness. We seek to promote the full incorporation of persons with mental retardation and their gifts into the Body of Christ as proclaimed by the teachings of the Catholic Church. The National Apostolate also conducts awareness programs for parishes and dioceses.

**Contact:**

**Barbara Lampe, Executive Director  
NAfIM  
P.O. Box 218  
Riverdale MD 20738  
Phone: 301-699-9500  
Web: [www.nafim.org](http://www.nafim.org)**

**4) National Catholic Partnership on Disability**

**(Formerly the National Catholic Office for Persons with Disabilities)**

**NCPD was established to welcome the now over fourteen million Catholics who are disabled to participate in the celebrations and obligations of their faith, and advocates for their inclusion "within the total fabric of society." A resource service provides relevant publications such as guides to creating access and awareness, addressing assisted suicide and euthanasia, complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act and other timely issues.**

**The NCPD has developed "Opening Doors to People with Disabilities," to assist Catholic Dioceses, parishes, individuals and organizations in bringing life to the bishops' "Pastoral Statement on People with Disabilities," which calls the estimated fourteen million U.S. Catholics with disabilities to full communion with the Church. This book consists of two volumes, Pastoral Manual (Volume I) and Resource File (Volume II.)**

**Contact:**

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Email: [NCPD@NCPD.ORG](mailto:NCPD@NCPD.ORG)  
Web: [www.ncpd.org](http://www.ncpd.org)**

**5) Network of Inclusive Catholic Educators**

**A part of the University of Dayton Institute for Pastoral Initiatives, the Network of Inclusive Catholic Educators, serves as a support network and resource to individuals with disabilities and their families by providing conferences, video and print resources, consultations, workshops and networking opportunities on the national and local level.**

**Contact:**

**Web: [www.udayton.edu](http://www.udayton.edu)**