





The Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus



A college student's observation of Clelian Heights

"This brings me to my thoughts on Clelian Heights. It is a privately operated school serving children from ages five thru twenty-one. In addition, it services adults in residence, providing support in a sheltered workshop and community work settings. It is licensed through the Pennsylvania Departments of Welfare and Education. It appears to have everything a school could possibly offer-pleasant classrooms and well equipped therapy rooms, certified instructors and paraprofessionals, two swimming pools, a cooking facility, a fitness facility, a sensory room, a gym, a social room and a clean cafeteria. In addition, it has a chapel for those seeking the peace and promise of spiritual support, forty serene acres of land, assisted living apartments, and a tremendous volunteer system."

"Clelian Heights' greatest and most obvious difference is that it provides a working community in which children youth, and adults with significant special needs can thrive..."

"Mental health experts are again and again urging educators to create schools with community structure in mind—within the classroom, within the school itself and throughout the district. This gives individuals the sense of belonging, reducing isolation, which can lead to serious behavioral and emotional aberrations. Every student that I observed at Clelian Heights appeared engaged and connected. Secure, well cared for children can grow up to be secure and socially stable adults. There is no promise that Clelian Heights will so transform its population that they will enter society unnoticed. They will, however, be motivated to try new things, secure in the knowledge that they are successful individuals. This is something every parent would want for his/her child. This is what would motivate me to push with all my might to enroll my child in this facility. In short, Clelian Heights would be the answer to my prayers... This institution inspires me. It is an intact society and subculture I want my children to know and respect. It merits further investigation, praise, and ongoing funding."

