## Have you ever wondered About Clelian Heights' Beginnings?

In 1961 the Sisters—The Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus—had an idea to help families help their children who had special needs. It all began with 4 sisters and 4 children. The sisters chose to reach out to educate children with disabilities because, at the time, these children were not included in schools leaving families with little guidance on how to help them. So on the 100th Anniversary of the birth of their foundress-Mother Clelia Merloni- Clelian Heights School opened as an educational facility where children with disabilities could come to learn skills that would enable them to have a fulfilling life. Provision was made so that even children who lived far from the school could attend and extend their opportunities for learning by staying in residence during the week and returning home for week-ends.

Clelian Heights grew so rapidly that the first school—a converted barn—was soon replaced by a state-of-the-art facility increasing Clelian's capacity and program offerings.

Clelian Heights, from the beginning, involved its students and residents in community activities and, since 1974, with the passing of the Right To Education for all children, Clelian Heights has partnered with school districts, sharing it's experience and being a bridge for needed services while broadening it's outreach.

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## Thank you for reaching out to Clelian Heights

What makes Clelian Heights special is that it is the place were all believe that a happy and fulfilling life is possible for everyone. It is the place where children with disabilities can be themselves, share themselves, and achieve success through learning and hands-on activities. It's the place where each child knows that they are supported and loved; where learning new things and being included in everything brings positive results and fulfillment. It's the place where everyone can receive what they need and gratefully enjoy every moment as gift and opportunity.

At Clelian Heights life is full of possibilities and success, is built one person at a time, focusing on one skill at a time, reaching one positive outcome at a time and always celebrating each attempt, each victory along the way, making Clelian Heights an exceptional place with many exceptional people.

Clelian Heights relies on the generosity of individuals and organizations to help provide

funding for programs, projects, events and future growth. When you donate, you choose to play a direct role in helping us foster the best education for the children and adults in our programs. Every gift is important — and we thank you for supporting Clelian Heights and having a lasting and positive effect on the lives of some very special people.



