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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Maryland Coalition for Inclusive Education Receive Social Equity Award

HANOVER— June 30, 2010-- The Maryland Coalition for Inclusive Education (MCIE) is the proud recipient of an award from the **National Academy of Public Administration, Panel on Social Equity** for “Leadership in Promoting Social Equity in Education.”

The National Academy of Public Administration is a non-profit, independent coalition of top public management and organizational leaders who tackle the nation’s most critical and complex challenges. With a network of more than 650 distinguished Fellows and an experienced professional staff, the Academy is uniquely qualified and trusted across government to provide objective advice and practical solutions based on systematic research and expert analysis. Established in 1967 and chartered by Congress, the Academy continues to make a positive impact by helping federal, state and local governments respond effectively to current circumstances and changing conditions.

MCIE was recognized for their partnerships with the Maryland State Department of Education and with Maryland’s Local School Systems to strategically and carefully include students with disabilities who traditionally have been served in separate classes and schools. These partnerships have strengthened instructional practices, staff collaboration, and family participation as schools restructure their service delivery approach. The educational outcomes for students improve as general education classes in the neighborhood school become the first placement of choice, and the one where administrators and educators welcome and embrace the diversity of their neighborhoods.

About Maryland Coalition for Inclusive Education Inc. (MCIE)

The Maryland Coalition for Inclusive Education Inc. (MCIE) is a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to the inclusion of students with disabilities in their neighborhood schools. Founded in 1988, MCIE provides a variety of services to families and schools. Its mission is to be the catalyst for meaningful and successful participation of all students in their neighborhood schools, through partnerships, advocacy, professional development, and public education. More information is available at www.mcie.org, Twitter (@mcie_inc), or Facebook (/inclusionmd).