

## INTRODUCTION TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS

**T**hese recommendations reflect task force consensus about initiatives needed to adequately provide appropriate educational services to students with exceptional ability or talent. Although a number of the recommendations involve new initiatives in Maryland gifted and talented education, others are designed to provide stability for existing services or address the issue of programmatic inequities across systems. Recognizing that commendatory programs currently exist in some places in Maryland, the task force believes that the recommendations in this report will reinforce these programs and extend similar educational services to students across the state.

**I**n this report, the task force has provided a guide for local school system assessment, study, goal setting, and decision making about the improvement of educational services for gifted and talented students. Since this report reflects current thinking and research about gifted and talented education, the task force believes that these recommendations will place Maryland in a leadership role in its effort to develop fully each student's potential.

