Catholic Charities USA honors 'Hal' Smith

Harold A. "Hal" Smith, the former executive director of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, was given the Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan Award by Catholic Charities USA Sept. 26.

Smith has spent 35 years with the Archdiocese, 33 as executive director. He stepped down from the position during the summer, and is now executive director emeritus. He received the award at the Catholic Charities USA Annual Gathering in Portland, Ore.

The Bishop Sullivan Award recognizes people who have demonstrated excellence, creativity and leadership in service delivery to children and their families.

Speaking about the people honored, Catholic Charities USA president Father Larry Snyder said, "They are truly doing God's work, delivering help and creating hope day-in and day-out, without seeking anything in return."

The Baltimore branch of the organization flourished under Smith's watch, developing facilities and programs for people in poverty, networks for families and children and 19 senior-living communities. An assisted living facility and a nursing/rehabilitation center were also established.