

C.L.L.E.

council for life long engagement

September: Back to School Time

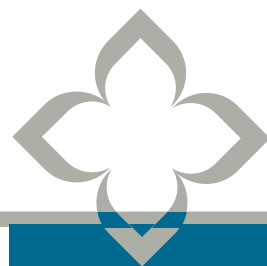
September means back to school for students, but within Episcopal Retirement Homes it means back to school for our elders as well. The *Council for Life Long Engagement (CLLE)* is proud to be entering it's fourth school year. CLLE partners with local schools with the mission to change how students view elders. Laura Lamb, vice president for Episcopal Retirement Homes, founded the CLLE with the mission to eradicate ageism in the U.S. Ageism -a tendency to regard older persons as debilitated, unworthy of attention, or unsuitable—has been the focus of recent studies confirming the negative health effects of ageism. For example, a Yale study concluded that “Elderspeak” reinforces negative images of aging, thereby decreasing the life span of elders up to 7.5 years. In response to the issue of ageism, Lamb has decided to make it her life goal to enhance the perception of the purpose and value of elders, counteracting the negative impacts of ageism.

The model is simple — ERH residents partner with local schools by matching the residents' talents, experience and job knowledge to the teacher's curriculum. The residents join the classroom as “guest lecturers.” The results are amazing ! Over the four years the elders have changed the students view of aging and older persons. They no longer see the stereotypes depicted in the media, but see the value that someone who has lived a rick life can bring to them!

The program is active in four local schools.:

Nativity, Mount Notre Dame, Kilgour, and St. Cecilia. As students go back to school the CLLE team is dusting off our notebooks of residents willing and interested in participating in the program. **If a member of the staff calls on you to get involved based on your career or interests, please consider. You can help us eradicate ageism one student at a time!**

Since its creation in 2010, CLLE has interacted with more than 1000 students . More than 200 residents have participated. It is no wonder we are making an impact. Additionally, eight retirement communities from around the country are in the process of adopting our CLLE program!



Are You Interested?

If you would like to be apart of the CLLE programs in the classroom, please contact Laura Lamb at llamb@erhinc.com or at 272.5555 ext. 6606. Visit www.clle.org

Did you hear the good news?

CLLE and Laura Lamb have received two awards this year. In September, we will be honored at the Leading Age Ohio Conference with the Innovation Award. In October, CLLE will receive the Hobart Jackson Diversity Award that the Leading Age National conference in Dallas, Texas.