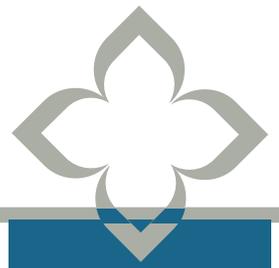


C.L.L.E.

council for life long engagement



Encourage and enable elders to share their knowledge and talents with school children to reverse any negative aspects of ageism.

Nativity is partnering with the *Council for Life Long Engagement (CLLE)* to change how our students view elders. **Laura Lamb**, Nativity parent and 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, countering the negative impacts of ageism.

The first step for Lamb is developing a *Council for Life Long Engagement* where elders will be able to interact with children. CLLE will help create positive interactions between grade school students and elders over a period of time, highlighting the elders’ knowledge and/or talents in furthering the education of young people. The mission of this project is to develop a replicable model for schools and retire

ment communities to establish *Council for Life Long Engagement* sites across the country.

Picture this...

A third grade class is studying the 1950’s, so Mrs. Hill, a former dance instructor, visits the class to interact with the students by teaching them to swing dance.

Ms. Tatum, an editor at the Washington Post for thirty years, teaches a lesson on newswriting and the inverted paragraph to a high school journalism class.



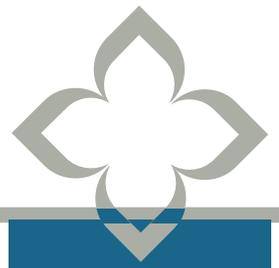
Bob Herring listens in as Deupree House resident, Bill Victor, describes his experience in World War II.

As a political activist, Mr. Wright comes to a seventh grade class to share about the March on Washington and what it was like to hear Martin Luther King, Jr. speak in person.

In response to the call of decreasing the impact of ageism, **Nativity School** has agreed to pilot the *Council for Life Long Engagement*

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for the 2010 school year along with residents from Deupree House and Marjorie P. Lee Retirement Communities. **Dave Lucas and Stephanie Kathman** are the first teachers to coordinate with Lamb to have several interactions during the year. Sessions on such topics as the Civil War, space travel, recycling, and colonial America are already scheduled for October 2010. Residents will first receive training on what to expect, logistics, modern classroom etiquette, etc., and teachers will have certain responsibilities to fulfill in order to set the elders up for success. The teachers and CLLE have already begun planning a Career Fair for the fourth through sixth grade students in January 2011.

According to Lamb, "Our children will learn first-hand from elders that have lived rich and rewarding lives. They will make History, Science and even Math come alive through their experience and wisdom."



Marjorie P. Lee
3550 Shaw Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio
45208
871-2090

Deupree House
3939 Erie Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio
45208
561-6363



8th grade student look at artifacts from World War II.