

### What is Intergenerational Connections?

**Intergenerational Connections** is the purposeful bringing together of different generations in ongoing and mutually beneficial activities such as mentoring and volunteerism. Youth and seniors share their talents and resources, supporting each other in relationships, which benefit the individuals and the community.



### Communities For A Lifetime

Communities thrive when the contributions of all generations are embraced and engaged. Our elders give us a mature, historical perspective of who we are, where we are, where we came from and how we got there, while our youth give us a childlike vision of the future and all that we can still be. Intergenerational programs give us the opportunity to bridge these vantage points, and create a strong sense of community and an appreciation for the contributions of each group. Communities for a Lifetime are places where these connections flourish.

### For More Information

Visit: <http://elderaffairs.state.fl.us/english/volunteer.html>. If you are interested in volunteering or starting a volunteer program, contact the Department of Elder Affairs Office of Volunteer & Community Services at:  
4040 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee, FL 32399  
PH: (850) 414-2000 / FX: (850) 414-2002

### Benefits of Intergenerational Connections

- Improved relations between young and older adults; as individuals learn more about each other, stereotypes and barriers to interaction disappear.
- Positive effect on problems - family problems (as evidenced by the recent wave of offenses by juveniles) can often spill over into the community, and with devastating consequences. When generations work together, everyone wins.
- Empowered communities - people begin to care about each other.

Intergenerational programs give us the opportunity to bridge these vantage points, creating a strong sense of community and an appreciation for the contributions of each group. Communities for a Lifetime are where these connections flourish. Intergenerational programs and activities, by their very nature, address issues of family across the life cycle. Further, they foster a willingness to cross-disciplinary and cultural boundaries to solve problems.