

Margaret Del Debbio - AmeriCorps Fall 2003-2004

Lantern Center

The Presentation Lantern Center is a drop-in facility operated by the Sisters of the Presentation offering hospitality, educational opportunities, and advocacy to women and their children who are seeking to better their lives. We have helped individuals from Brazil, China, Columbia, Guatemala, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Bosnia, South Korea and Taiwan. English language skills are vitally important for our guests and constitute the heart of the Lantern Center. We make learning meaningful by centering it on the student and their needs, and practice a collaborative approach, regarding the student and the teacher as equals.



The learning is decidedly student centered with each guest determining their needs and the teacher fashioning a tutorial time and program that addresses those needs.

Special events and community celebrations balance the daily work at the Center. My experience has allowed me to interact and learn from people from many different countries and walks of life. It has also made me come to appreciate the courage and fortitude of the men, women and children who leave all that they know, everyone they love, and journey into a completely foreign world.

The Latino community celebrates for 9 nights sharing food, song, and understanding.



"All over the world, healing involves calmness, beautiful places, and kind people." -Mary Pipher