



## **EL SOL, JUPITER'S NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCE CENTER FIRST QUARTERLY REPORT**

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El Sol, Jupiter’s Neighborhood Resource Center (JNRC) as part of its lease with the Town of Jupiter is pleased to submit its quarterly report for the months of January, February, and March 2008.

**1. Worker Statistics:**

**a. Number of Workers Registered:**

A total of 884 workers are registered with El Sol as of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

**b. Workers Attendance:**

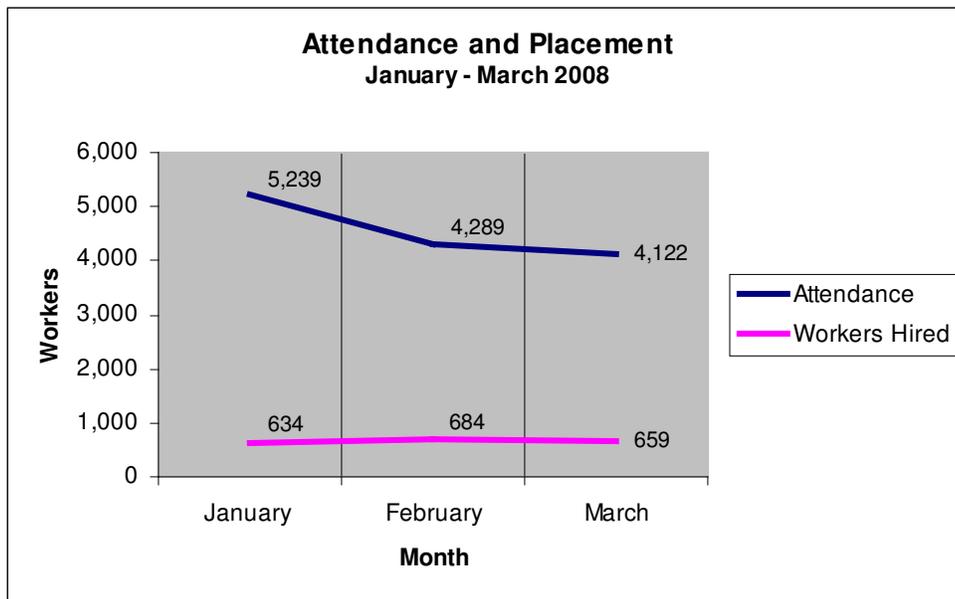
During the first quarter of 2008 worker attendance at the center totaled thirteen thousand six hundred and fifty (13,650). On average, the center served 152 workers per day. The monthly breakdown is as follows;

January: 5,239 workers served  
 February: 4,289 workers served  
 March: 4,122 workers served

**c. Workers Hired:**

A total of one thousand nine hundred and seventy seven workers (1,977) were placed in jobs during this quarter. During that period the Center operated with a 15% of worker placement. On average, 22 workers were hired per day. The monthly breakdown is as follows;

January: 634 workers hired  
 February: 684 workers hired  
 March: 659 workers hired



**2. Employer Statistics:**

**a. Number of Employers Registered:**

A total of one thousand six hundred and ninety one (1,691) employers are registered with El Sol. In this quarter a total of 457 new employers registered to use our services. The monthly breakdown is as follows:

January: 155 new employers  
 February: 165 new employers  
 March: 137 new employers

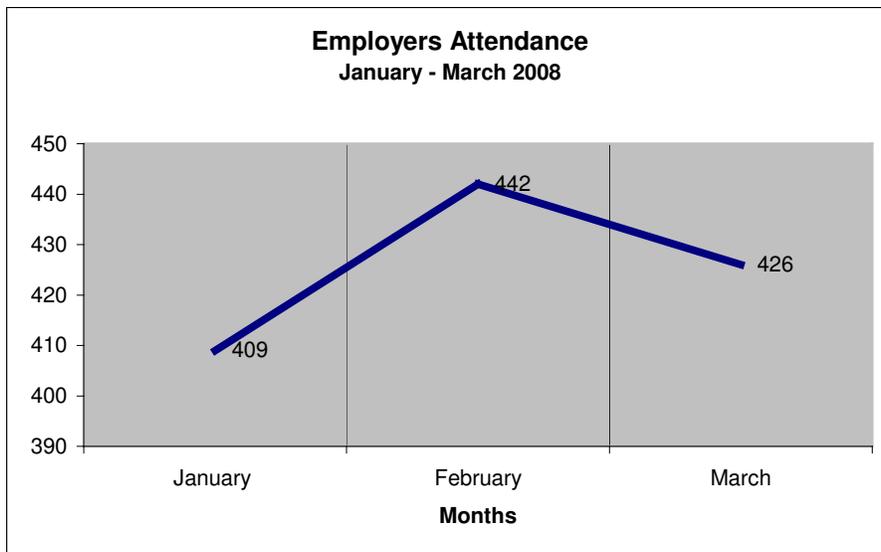
**b. Employers Attendance:**

The total number of employers/homeowners who came into the Center to hire workers for the period was one thousand two hundred and seventy seven (1,277), the monthly breakdown is as follows;

January: 409  
 February: 442 (8% increase from previous month)  
 March: 426 (4% decrease from previous month)

**c. Employers' Needs:**

The majority of the job requests and most common needs around the community were (in descending order): landscaping, housekeeping, moving, digging, painting and yard work.



**3. Fundraising:**

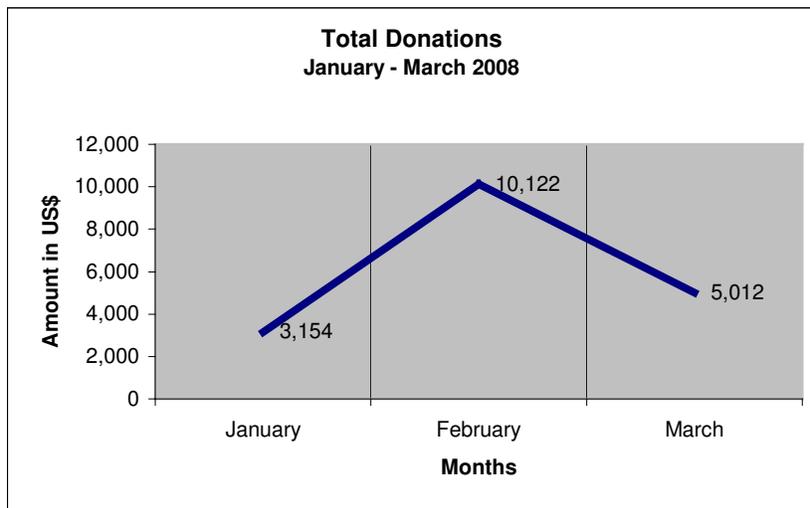
Private Donations and Grants:

The total donations during the quarter was: \$16,318. Including the \$8,100 grant from The American Cancer Society and the \$2,500 grant from Christian on a Mission. The monthly breakdown is as follows:

January: \$2,548  
 February: \$9,450  
 March: \$4,320

Lunch Collections and Raffles:

January: \$606  
 February: \$672  
 March: \$692



In Kind Donations:

Food; kitchen supplies; computers; blankets; refrigerator; decorations, band music, gifts and gift certificates for Spaghetti Dinner; drawer chest and book shelves; vacuum; televisions; bikes and bike helmets; Office supplies; computer software and a framed article about El Sol.

Pending Grants:

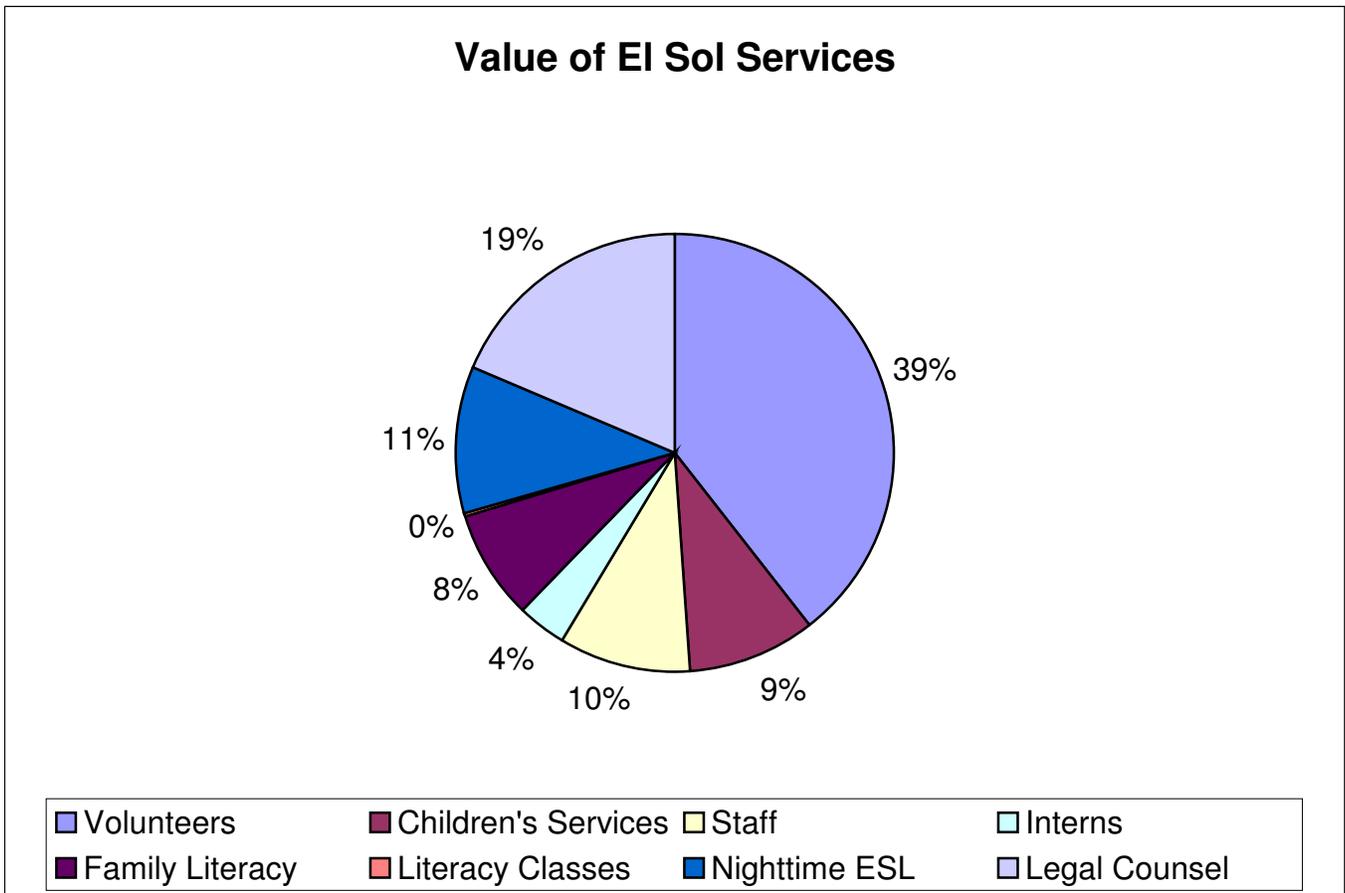
JL Cares (unspecified amount)  
 Staples Foundation for Learning (\$14,600)  
 Southern Wines and Spirits (\$1,097)

Major fundraising focus for the second quarter of 2008 for El Sol is to solicit major financial institutions, especially Bank of America, Washington Mutual and Wachovia. Also, we will be re-approaching several foundations, including the Community Foundation and Quantum Foundation regarding possibilities. We will continue to strengthen our relationship with United Way. Finally we will begin planning a membership campaign to mail to community members, especially those who have already given to us in the past two years, for further support.

**4. Value of El Sol Services for this Quarter:**

El Sol provides a variety of services to the community. In this chart you can view the value of each service, and in the next section we have included the details of each program.

Volunteers	\$76,680.00
Children's Services	\$18,232.00
Staff	\$19,022.00
Interns	\$7,236.00
Family Literacy	\$15,557.00
Literacy Classes	\$288.00
Nighttime ESL	\$21,352.00
Legal Counsel	\$36,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$194,367.00</b>



**On Average, El Sol provides \$64,789 per month in services to the Jupiter Community.**

**5. Services Offered:**

**a. Breakfast/Lunch:**

Everyday El Sol provides coffee and pastries for breakfast, and a hot meal for lunch. This is possible with the help of our volunteers, and the donations from various local businesses and organizations including: Publix, Starbucks, St. Vincent De Paul, St. Peters Church, Panera Bread and more. In this quarter we served a total of 12,501 meals. The breakdown per month is as follows;

January: 5,169 meals; 172 meals on average per day  
 February: 4,053 meals; 140 meals on average per day  
 March: 3,279 meals; 106 meals on average per day

Total: 12,501 meals

**b. Daytime ESL Classes:**

El Sol offers English as a Second Language (ESL) classes once every day and twice on Saturdays. The breakdown of participation per month is as follows;

January: 432 students; 14 students on average per class  
 February: 338 students; 12 students on average per class  
 March: 235 students; 8 students on average per class

Total: 1,005 students

**c. Nighttime ESL Program:**

El Sol has partnered with Palm Beach County's School District and Florida Atlantic University's Honors College to host a widely recognized ESL program. The semester lasted from January 17th to March 19<sup>th</sup>, and classes were offered Monday-Wednesday from 6:30PM to 9:30PM.

We had a total of 12 volunteers teaching each week, and they contributed a total of 648 hours valued at \$11,664. Additionally, the program covers a total of \$9,688 in form of salary pay for two teachers and the ESL coordinator. The total value is \$21,352.

The winter ESL night classes held their graduation ceremony on Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. 80 students were awarded diplomas for completing English class. 22 more were given certificates of attendance (they attended a majority of the classes, but were not able to complete the testing requirements needed for completion). Fifteen women attended and received certificates this past session. This is a positive sign and we would like to encourage more women in the community to attend.

The summer semester will be from April 21<sup>st</sup> until May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

d. **Socialization and Parenting Classes:**

El Sol has partnered with Palm Beach County's Children's Services Council to host daily parenting and socialization classes. The topics covered this quarter varied greatly. Here is a brief list of some of the topics that were taught in the classes:

- Active Parenting
- Addiction, Drugs and Alcohol
- How to Manage my Budget
- Learning about the American Culture
- Family Disintegration
- Family and Laws
- Healthy Nutrition
- Child Development
- Anger Management
- Self Esteem
- Emergency Preparation
- Cultural Diversity

A total of 1,623 workers participated in these classes. The breakdown per month is as follows;

January: 443 participants  
February: 606 participants  
March: 574 participants

Total: 1,623 participants

The program covers a total of \$18,232.50 in form of salary pay for two educators.

e. **Family Literacy:**

El Sol is hosting The Palm Beach County School District's Family Literacy Program. This program is geared towards pre-school children and their parents and it helps families in the community improve their educational needs (ESL, Adult Basic Education, GED, parenting, early childhood education, and parent-child activities). The program runs from Mondays through Thursdays from 8:00 AM to 12:30 PM.

Currently, there are 13 families enrolled. There are 13 adults, 8 young children (4 and younger) and 13 school-aged children that are being impacted by this program. It serves a diverse population with immigrants from several different countries; such as, Russia, China, Colombia, Peru, Brazil, Venezuela, Mexico and Guatemala. To join in this program the participants must be a parent with children living and attending school in Palm Beach County.

Certified teachers run the program and its services are valued at \$15,157, which includes teacher salaries and supplies.

f. **Legal Counsel:**

Jill Hanson from Hanson, Perry & Jensen, P.A., and Secretary of the Board of Directors of El Sol has seen approximately 15 people on a pro-bono basis in the time period. The most common issues

among the clients were unpaid wage claims and immigration (which we do not handle, we refer out). She works for 15 hours a week with El Sol, at \$200 per hour. For this quarter, the value of the legal services provided at El Sol adds up to \$36,000.

Our Legal Counsel counts with qualified legal translators, and is interviewing potential interns for the summer. She is also meeting with local attorneys to try to establish a more formal legal aid system.

Jill Hanson and Andrea Ortega will be making a presentation to the Palm Beach County Immigrant Rights Coalition Wage Theft group about how El Sol handles unpaid wage claims, and discussing with the group setting up a county wide task force on wage theft.

**g. Personal Counsel:**

Sister Marta Tobón assists many El Sol workers with her guidance. She often gives family and personal counseling in the center. Additionally, she refers people to different organizations depending on their needs.

Beatriz Solis, an expert in social work, has helped victims of criminal and domestic abuse. She also helps people that need to file passport, social security, residency and other paperwork. She helps with immigration questions and provides financial assistance. This quarter she helped a total of 182 individuals. The monthly breakdown is as follows:

January:	56 individuals
February:	67 individuals
March:	59 individuals
<u>Total:</u>	182 individuals

**h. Internships:**

El Sol had three interns from Florida Atlantic University's Honors College. The interns were responsible with various tasks ranging from collaborating with the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Fiesta Maya, upgrading Corn Maya's website, helping El Sol with registration of workers, teaching English, translating, and helping with the center's administrative needs. They learned about the inner workings of non-profit organizations. Also, they learned about the transnational, political and economic realities of Jupiter. Together they all contributed with a total of 402 hours of work, which is valued at \$18 per hour, or \$7,236 total.

i. **Literacy Classes:**

Starting in March, El Sol began a new literacy class in Spanish. The purpose of this class is to teach illiterate people how to read and write in their native language. This not only improves their quality of life, it also places them in the right path to learn English and other subjects.

The need for this class became apparent during the registration of workers, and thus, two El Sol workers who used to be teachers in Guatemala agreed to teach the literacy class. At the moment it's a pilot program and a total of two students attend the classes. It takes place every Thursday and Saturday night from 7:30 – 9:30 PM.

j. **Corn Maya:**

- Soccer League: Corn Maya, Inc. is a non-profit organization that runs the cultural, sports and academic events in El Sol. This quarter they continued with their soccer league. There are a total of 10 teams participating, including two teams of El Sol: "Las Estrellas" and "Las Aguilas."

- Academic and Development Conferences: Corn Maya organized an international conference called "The Impact of International Migration of the Sending and Destination Communities." Presented by INCEDES of Guatemala and scholars from Spain, Guatemala, Mexico, University of Florida (UF) and Florida Atlantic University (FAU) in the El Sol building.

Corn Maya also co-sponsored with FAU, The American Jewish Committee, the Guatemalan Honorary Consulate of Palm Beach County, Hispanics in Philanthropy and the Center for International Migration & Integration a workshop on Transnational Economic, Social and Educational Development.

- Fiesta Maya: On February Corn Maya also hosted the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Fiesta Maya in the Abacoa Town Center. This Fiesta is a cultural celebration of the Virgin of Candelaria and is attended by many Jupiter community members.

- Music Lessons: Additionally, this quarter Corn Maya started free music lessons every Saturday afternoon for children. The class is taught by a local High School student and an average of 10 children show up to learn music appreciation, how to play the recorder and more.

k. **Volunteers**

El Sol counts with a total of 128 volunteers to cover the daytime operation of the center. For this quarter there was a total of 4,260 volunteering hours, which is valued at \$76,680. Here is a breakdown of volunteer hours per month;

January:	1,483 hours; 126 volunteers	\$18 per hour = \$26,694
February:	1,472 hours; 128 volunteers	\$18 per hour = \$26,496
March:	1,305 hours; 115 volunteers	\$18 per hour = \$23,490
<u>Total:</u>	4,260 hours; 128 volunteers	\$18 per hour = \$76,680

**I. Occupational Training:**

This quarter El Sol held two occupational training courses for workers interested in developing or learning new skills, here are the topics covered and the number of participants:

Carpet Cleaning:	18 participants
Housekeeping:	16 participants

**m. Table Workshops:**

The center re-organized its main hall to include tables so that workers could better use the time spent inside the center. We developed a program called "Table Workshops" in which volunteers gave a workshop in a variety of topics:

- Landscaping Basic Vocabulary: 10 participants on average
- Conversational English: 14 participants on average
- Traffic Safety Vocabulary: 7 participants on average
- Art Workshop: 15 participants on average

We are also developing the following workshops:

- Town of Jupiter Workshop: On going table run by the City and El Sol related to matters of public interest for Jupiter's residents.
- Drywall Basic Vocabulary
- Housekeeping Basic Vocabulary
- Immigration Issues
- Health Table
- Cleaning Basic Vocabulary

**n. Computer Lab**

El Sol's computer lab is one of the most popular features among the workers. Below is the monthly breakdown of participation:

January:	536 participants
February:	691 participants
March:	540 participants

**6. Monthly Events:**

**a. January:**

- Monthly Friends of El Sol meeting.
- Parenting workshops offered by Children's Services
- Aids/ HIV Awareness and Prevention Presentation

- Hispanic Council Meeting
- ESL Evening and Daily classes
- Administrative transition
- School District's Migrant Education Program information session
- Presentation about El Sol at St. Jude's Catholic Church

**b. February:**

- Monthly Friends of El Sol meeting.
- Parenting workshops offered by Children's Services
- Housecleaning Skills Training
- Hispanic Council Meeting
- Presentation by International Migration Attorney
- Fiesta Maya
- Academic Presentation and Forum on International Migration by academics from Guatemala, Spain, and Florida. Hosted by Corn Maya
- Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting
- Spaghetti Dinner to honor local interfaith clergy members
- School District's Migrant Education Program information session

**c. March:**

- Monthly Friends of El Sol meeting.
- Parenting workshops offered by Children's Services
- Red Link, New Bus Route Presentation
- Landscaping Vocabulary Workshop
- Literacy Classes
- Hispanic Council Meeting
- Aids/HIV Awareness and Prevention Presentation
- HIV/Aids testing bus – free testing
- Melanoma Foundation Informational Table on skin cancer
- El Sol Rules were approved by workers' assembly
- School District's Migrant Education Program information session
- ESL night program graduation

**7. Quarterly Progress Highlights:**

- As of January 1st El Sol became the sole lessee and operator of the center.
- The Center received 10 new computers from the Palm Beach School District to open up a mini-computer lab and also replace computers that are out of service.
- We developed the "Table Workshops" and "Occupational Training" programs.

- We started a Literacy program offered in Spanish for people who do not know how to read and write.
- We partnered with Family Literacy to offer a program for pre-school children and their parents.
- We held the Spaghetti Dinner in February to recognize the clergy leadership of 11 different religious organizations for all the support they gave El Sol in its start-up year.

**8. Challenges:**

We are pleased with the success of the center, and are looking forward to continue developing needed programs and services. Some of our challenges are to increase the placement rate of workers and generate more public support.

**9. Appendix:**

Please see attached document to view El Sol's general statistics for this quarter.

Submitted by;

Jocelyn Sabbagh  
Office Coordinator  
El Sol, JNRC