



EL SOL, JUPITER'S NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCE CENTER FIRST QUARTERLY REPORT 2009

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April 18, 2009

Dear Town of Jupiter Council Members,

As part of its lease with the Town, El Sol is pleased to submit its first quarterly report for the months of January, February and March 2009.

Since our last report, our Center has made organizational developments. El Sol's Board of Directors elected a new executive committee: Jill Hanson (President), Ed Ricci (Vice President), Terry McFarland (Treasurer), and Lee McCarthy (Secretary). Also, Jocelyn Sabbagh is El Sol's Center Director, Dora Valdivia is the Associate Director, Wilberto Luna is the Labor Coordinator and volunteer Sally Isham is our new Volunteer Coordinator. The Center hired a new English as a Second Language (ESL) Coordinator and a new Youth Leader (Gerardo Barascout and Sophia Otfinoski).

The impact of our programs and services is detailed here, and when appropriate, there is a comparison to last year's statistics. According to the Florida Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service, the value of volunteer contributions is estimated at \$19.52 per hour. This is the amount we assign to calculate the value of our programs.

The report's format has been slightly changed in an effort to improve the way we measure results and the impact of our organization in our community. If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jocelyn Sabbagh
Center Director

II. PROGRAMS

1. LABOR PROGRAM

El Sol administers Jupiter’s Hiring Hall seven days a week, from 6AM – 2PM on Mondays through Saturdays, and 7AM – noon on Sundays. Workers come to the hiring hall to look for day labor, and employers use our center to hire workers for the day.

a. Workers Statistics:

A total of one thousand four hundred and sixty-nine (1,469) workers are registered with El Sol as of March 31st, 2009.

Workers Attendance:

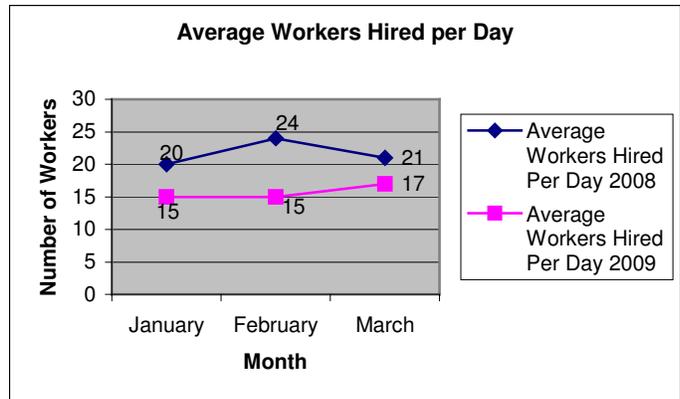
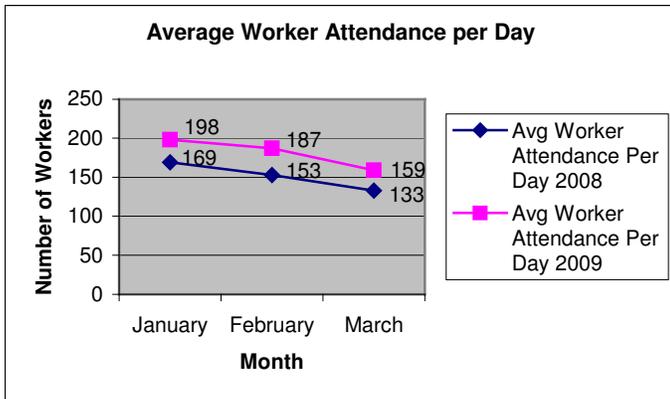
During the first quarter of 2009 worker attendance at the center totaled 16,316 workers¹. On average, the center served 181 workers per day. The monthly breakdown is as follows:

January:	198 per day on average (4% increase from previous month)
February:	187 per day on average (6% decrease from previous month)
March:	159 per day on average (15% decrease from previous month)

Workers Hired:

A total of one thousand four hundred and fourteen 1,414 workers were placed in jobs during this quarter. The Center operated with a 9% worker placement. On average, 16 workers were hired per day. The monthly breakdown is as follows:

January:	476 workers hired; 15 per day on average; 8% placement
February:	425 workers hired; 15 per day on average; 8% placement
March:	513 workers hired; 17 per day on average; 11% placement



The increase in number of workers that came to El Sol to seek work and the decrease in the amount of workers hired reflects the overall condition of the US economy. However, it is interesting to note that there seems to be a recurring pattern in the average attendance of workers. Attendance is highest in November, December and January, and as the year progresses attendance seems to decrease.

¹ Total worker attendance is the addition of all daily attendance lists.

b. Employers Statistics

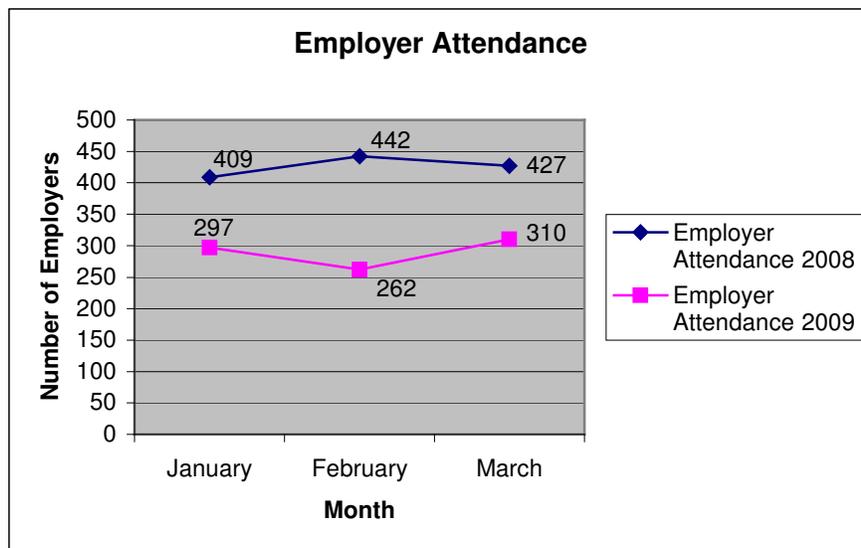
A total of two thousand seven hundred and thirty (2,730) employers are registered with El Sol as of March 31st, 2009. In this quarter a total of 221 new employers registered to use our services. The monthly breakdown is as follows:

January: 81 new employers
 February: 77 new employers
 March: 63 new employers

Employers Attendance

The total number of employers/homeowners who came into the Center to hire workers from January to March 2009 was eight hundred and sixty-nine (869). The monthly breakdown is as follows:

January: 297 employers
 February: 262 employers (12% decrease from previous month)
 March: 310 employers (18% increase from previous month)



Employers' Needs:

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

2. EDUCATION

a. English as a Second Language (ESL)

Nighttime ESL Program:

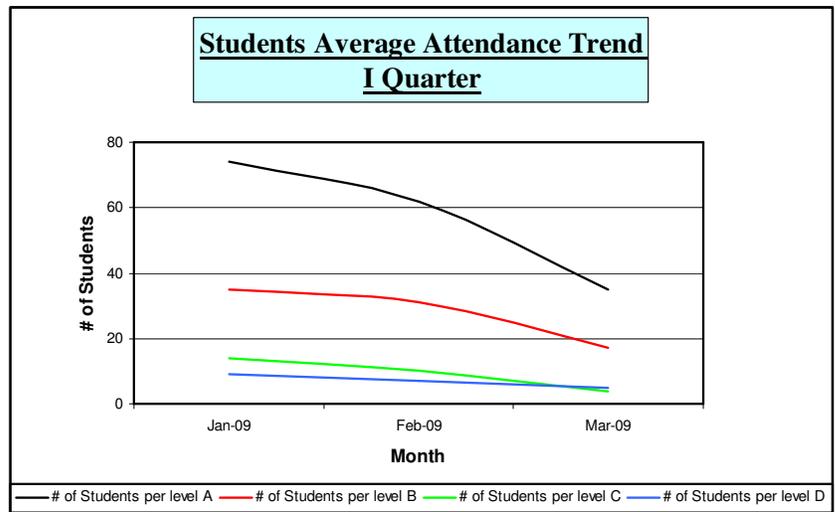
El Sol has partnered with Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College of Florida Atlantic University and Palm Beach Community College to run its own ESL program based on the curriculum and standards of Palm Beach County's School District ESL Program. This program is offered to the community for free three nights a week from 7-9PM.

Classes are given by volunteer teachers from our neighborhood, and students from FAU and PBCC. This semester a total of 46 people volunteered to teach. Spring Classes of 2009 started on February 2nd and will conclude on April 13th with our graduation ceremony. Summer classes will begin in mid May and will last 3 months.

A total of 132 students enrolled for the Spring Semester, and each student was placed in one of four levels: Level A (for beginners), B, C, and D (most advanced class). The breakdown of student enrollment and attendance is as follows:

Level	Students Enrolled (Jan 09)	Student Average Attendance (Feb 09)	Student Average Attendance (Mar 09)
A	74	62	35
B	35	31	17
C	14	10	4
D	9	7	5
Total	132	110	61

The attendance trend is being closely observed and studied by staff in an effort to improve student retention and level completion. Only those students with high attendance and language comprehension are advanced to the next level.



Our Youth Leader Program runs at the same time we offer our ESL nighttime classes and it serves a two-fold purpose: on one hand it offers a free service to parents (especially mothers) who otherwise could not attend classes at night and on the other hand it offers educational and engaging activities for children while their parents are in class. Six children attend this program.

Value of Program:

ESL Coordinator:	\$3,600
Youth Leader:	\$1,800
Volunteer Hours:	\$11,243 (576 hours)
Materials:	\$500
Total:	\$17,143

Daytime ESL Classes:

El Sol offers ESL classes every day of the week. Last year we offered one class per day and classes focused on basic conversational vocabulary. Beginning in January El Sol's daytime volunteer teachers started teaching two classes per day – one for beginners and one for intermediate. This addition made a significant impact for students as the material covered in class was more suitable for their proficiency level.

A total of one thousand five hundred and twenty-two (1,522) students attended ESL classes this quarter. The monthly breakdown is as follows:

Month	Number of students in 2009	Number of students in 2008
January	675	432
February	467	338
March	380	235
Total Quarter I	1,522	1,005

Value of Program:

Volunteers: \$3,552 (182 hours)
 Materials: \$500
Total: \$4,052

b. Spanish Literacy

El Sol offers Spanish literacy classes Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights from 7-9PM. The purpose of this class is to teach illiterate people how to read and write in their native language. This not only helps improve student's overall quality of life, it also places the student in the right path to learn English and other subjects.

In 2008, eight adults learned how to read and write. This year a total of ten students are enrolled. The Spring Semester will conclude on April 30th.

We began this semester by adding a second level class and recruiting two more volunteer teachers (total of four volunteer teachers). The first level class is for beginners and the second level class is for students who are interested in furthering their literacy. We also added an extra class meeting each week (Fridays) per the students' request.

Value of Program:

Volunteers: \$2,576 (132 volunteer hours)
 Materials: \$50
Total: \$2,626

c. Spanish Classes for English Speakers

In March El Sol started a pilot program for our volunteers who are interested in Spanish lessons. One of our volunteers is teaching Spanish to English speakers on Tuesdays and will continue the hour-long classes through the month of April. The average class size is eight students and the volunteer teacher covers topics ranging from Greetings, Days of the Week, Nationality, and Conversational Vocabulary.

Value of Program:

Volunteer:	\$78	(4 hours)
Materials:	\$25	
Total:	\$103	

d. Family Literacy Program

El Sol has partnered with The Palm Beach County School District’s Family Literacy Program to offer family literacy classes. This program is geared towards pre-school and school aged 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 8:30AM to 1:00PM.

This program is impacting twenty-four families, which includes over fifty children. Some children impacted by this program are enrolled in local elementary schools; younger children (4 years old and under) come to the center for pre-school preparation while their mothers receive classes.

In the first quarter of 2009, the Palm Beach Library System participated with the Family Literacy program by giving Story Time for parents and their kids and giving away books for the families. Also this quarter, the University of Florida Extension Program has offered workshops about nutrition and healthy lifestyles.

Value of Program:

Three certified School District teachers administer the program and the total value is the addition of their salaries and materials.

Total: \$15,157

e. Workshops and Community Service

This quarter El Sol held a workshops for workers interested in developing new skills, here are the topics covered and the number of participants:

Vocabulary Workshops: El Sol partnered with PBCC’s Spanish Class for a Service Learning program in which college Spanish students came to El Sol to give vocabulary workshops. Workshops helped El Sol workers learn useful words in English, while Spanish students practiced the same words in Spanish. We began workshops in February and a total of 262 students participated throughout the first quarter.

- i. **Town of Jupiter Workshop:** El Sol and the Town of Jupiter have created a series of code compliance presentations and will be having informative

seminars twice per month. This quarter we held a total of six workshops, and a total of 190 participants attended. Topics covered include fire prevention and protection, proper garbage disposal and traffic safety.

- ii. **Community Service Events:** In February El Sol coordinated a community service project with the local Habitat for Humanity. Twenty-three workers volunteered for a full day to help build homes for low-income families. This opportunity is especially positive for workers because in addition to contributing back to Jupiter, they are getting hands-on training in a construction site.

f. Computer Literacy

El Sol’s computer lab is one of the most popular programs among the workers. The lab has 20 computers that were donated to us by the School District’s Digital Divide program. In February the School District donated a set of newer computers and we were able to upgrade our lab. The computers we replaced will be donated to educational institutions in Guatemala. Through the Lost Tree grant we were able to purchase MS Office for every computer, which we will use to teach students how to use Excel, Word, and Power Point.

Every day, twice a day, we have open computer lab time in which participants can browse the internet, communicate with their friends and family, read their hometown news, watch videos etc. Also, every computer in the lab has Rosetta Stone, which is used as a tool to learn English. Below is the monthly breakdown of participation in the computer lab:

January: 1,387 participants
 February: 1,587 participants
 March: 1,617 participants
Total: 4,591 participants

Value of Program:

Volunteers: \$7,105 (364 hours)
 Materials: \$8,088 (\$6,944 computers; \$1,144 MS Office)
Total: \$15,193

Month	Number of participants in 2009	Number of participants in 2008
January	1,387	536
February	1,587	691
March	1,617	540
Total Quarter I	4,591	1,767

g. Parenting and Personal Development Classes

During the first quarter of 2009, The School District sponsored 31 hours of Parenting and Personal Development Classes that benefited a total of 193 students. The monthly breakdown of participation is as follows:

January:	52 students
February:	56 students
March:	85 students
Total:	193 students

Classes were given on relevant topics such as: Anger Management, Self Esteem, Alcoholism, Healthy Relationships, Stress, and Assertiveness.

Value of Program:

Certified Educator:	\$620 (31 hours at \$20 per hour)
Total:	\$620

h. Title I: Migrant Education Program

On Mondays and Wednesdays from 8:00 AM – noon, El Sol hosts Palm Beach County’s School District Title I: Migrant Education Program. This educational program impacts emancipated youth ages 16 to 21. Classes focus mainly on English language acquisition and pronunciation, computer skills, health and daily foods, and survival skills for immigrants in the US. On average each class has 18 students.

Value of Program:

Three certified teachers and an assistant administer the program and the total value is the addition of their salaries and materials.

Total: \$10,500



Nighttime ESL Spring Semester: January – April 2009

3. LEGAL

During the first quarter of 2009, we recruited another volunteer lawyer to work with us, as well as a volunteer who was a long-time legal secretary, who is helping to organize our office.

We now offer "legal clinic" every Wednesday and Saturday. In addition, through Corn Maya, a paralegal with experience and knowledge of immigration law is coming once a week.

During the quarter, each lawyer saw an average of three persons each day, for a total of approximately 36 cases during the quarter.

We gave advice to some of the clients; some were referred to outside counsel who have agreed to take cases either pro bono or on a contingency fee basis. The following cases were referred out:

- 2 wage theft cases involving large groups of employees
- 2 cases involving U-visas
- 2 cases referred to criminal defense attorneys
- 2 cases referred to a workers compensation attorney
- 1 case referred to a personal injury attorney

Three persons seeking assistance regarding tickets for driving with suspended or no license were accompanied to court, and in each case, a successful plea agreement was reached.

We also organized a Know Your Rights workshop, on what to do in case you are involved in an immigration raid. This workshop, run by Radym Davis of the Palm Beach County Immigrant Rights Coalition helped to train several El Sol and Corn Maya personnel in how to teach people about what to do in an immigration raid situation. We also continue to distribute Know Your Rights cards to the workers, as well as booklets in which the workers can keep track of their hours of work, wage rates, in case their employer fails to pay them.

Additionally, we are receiving assistance through the Community Development Clinic of Florida International University Law School. This clinic is helping us to develop an appropriate organizational format for our artists and craftspeople, to enable them to become more entrepreneurial, under the guidance of El Sol.

The new president of the North County Bar Association was approached and is favorable to greater cooperation between the North County Bar and El Sol, including the idea of having one of their meetings at El Sol. We will pursue this further, including the idea of offering "Spanish for Criminal Defense Lawyers" at El Sol, as a course for lawyers who want to learn more Spanish to help their clients, as a fund-raiser.

Value of Program:

Attorneys:	\$23,400	(78 hours at \$300 per hour)
Legal Secretary:	\$7,800	(104 hours at \$75 per hour)
Legal Interpreters:	\$1,950	(78 hours at \$25 per hour)
Total:	\$33,150	

4. HEALTH

This year El Sol began coordinating a much-needed Health service to address the various and dire healthcare needs in our community. The focus of our Health Program is to increase awareness and understanding about health issues among our community by providing educational seminars and health fairs; and also to provide referrals for individuals with serious healthcare needs.

Diane Williams, El Sol volunteer and chair of the Health Committee, has been a strong leader in creating strategic partnerships and finding access to various resources. Through these partnerships, we have been able to provide low-income and uninsured individuals with medical assistance. Below is a list of medical partnerships we have developed:

Lens Crafters – Gift of Sight Program	Caridad Clinic
Sears Optical – Gift of Sight Program	Carelink
Visiting Nurse Association	Palm Beach County Health Dept.
Audibel	Families First
Ear Foundation	Union Positiva
Aker & Kasten	Susan G. Komen Foundation
American Cancer Society	Healing Touch Buddies
Vita Health	Several Private Doctors
Sickle Cell Foundation	

This quarter we held the following Health events:

Sickle Cell Foundation Presentation: 100 participants learned about Sickle Cell Disease

Monthly, Visiting Nurse Association (VNA): 62 patients seen by VNA nurses

Monthly, HIV/AIDS Awareness and Testing: 100 participants

Homeopathic Medicine Educational Presentation: 40 participants learned about alternative, homeopathic and Chinese medicine.

Palm Beach County Health Department: 80 participants were tested for TB

Eye Screening Exams: 109 participants got their vision checked; those with poor eyesight were either given reading glasses or referred to optometrists.

5. FOOD

Our food program has become a very important aspect of our services to the Jupiter Community. With the recent economic downturn, many individuals have reported that they only eat meals they receive for free in El Sol because they cannot afford to buy food. 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, CR Chicks and more. This first quarter of 2009 we served a total of 13,091 meals, an average of 150 meals daily. The breakdown per month is as follows:

January:	4,751 meals, 158 meals per day on average
February:	4,219 meals, 158 meals per day on average
March:	4,121 meals, 133 meals per day on average
Total:	13,091 meals, 150 meals per day on average

Value of Program:

Meals:	\$39,273 (13,091 meals at an estimated \$3 per meal)
Volunteers:	\$26,644 (1,365 hours)
Total:	\$65,917

6. PERSONAL COUNSELING

Sister Marta Tobón, a Guadalupan sister from St. Peter's Catholic Church assists many El Sol workers with her guidance. She often gives family and personal counseling in the center. Most cases are individuals seeking assistance with rent, return air fare tickets to go back to their countries of origin (we have seen an increase in these type of cases recently), need for furniture or medical problems. She often refers people to different organizations and partners depending on their needs. This Quarter Sister Marta took a total of 63 cases; the monthly breakdown is as follows:

January:	17 cases
February:	24 cases
March:	22 cases
Total:	63 cases

Value of Program:

Volunteer:	\$2,537 (130 hours)
Total:	\$2,537

7. VOLUNTEERS AND INTERNS

Last year we reported the total number of volunteer hours without categorizing them by program. To better reflect the impact and resources needed for each individual service, we have made a distinction of how many volunteer hours were contributed per program. However, in addition to supporting many of the programs mentioned above, volunteers also assist in other areas of our operation. They provide administrative and technical support; help register new workers; provide referrals; welcome employers; assist with special events and committees; write grants and develop strategies, and much more.

The total number of volunteer hours contributed for Other operations (and that are not otherwise mentioned in this report) were: 2,932 hours.

El Sol had three interns from Florida Atlantic University's Honors College this quarter: David Fertitta, Kathryn Klaas and Ron Lewis. Interns were responsible for various tasks ranging from helping with El Sol worker registration, teaching English classes and vocabulary workshops, translating, grant writing and project development, and helping with the Center's administrative needs. All interns learned about the inner workings of a non-profit organization and the transnational, political, and economic realities of Jupiter. They contributed a total of 252 hours from January to March 2009.

Value of Contributions:

Volunteers (Other): \$57,232 (2,932 hours)

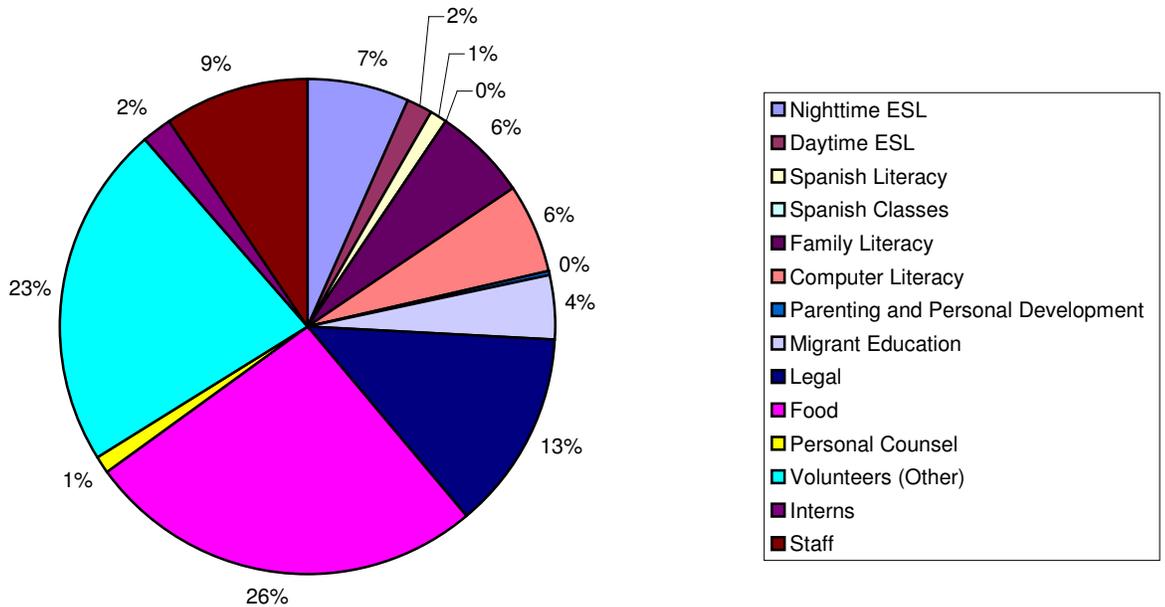
Interns: \$4,919 (252 hours)

III. VALUE OF EL SOL SERVICES

El Sol provided an average of \$84,234 per month in services to the Jupiter Community this Quarter.

Nighttime ESL Program	\$17,143
Daytime ESL Program	\$4,052
Spanish Literacy Program	\$2,626
Spanish Language Classes	\$103
Family Literacy Program	\$15,157
Computer Literacy Program	\$15,193
Parenting and Personal Development Classes	\$620
Migrant Education Program	\$10,500
Legal Program	\$33,150
Food Program	\$65,917
Personal Counsel Program	\$2,537
Volunteers (Other)	\$57,232
Interns	\$4,723
Staff	\$23,750
Total	\$252,703

Value of El Sol Services: Quarter I 2009



IV. FUNDRAISING

Private Donations and Grants:

The total donations in the first quarter of 2009 were \$12,898.23. This includes private donations, lunch collections, raffles, and other income that is not earmarked for a specific use (designated donations and grants are not included). The monthly breakdown is as follows:

January:	\$2,108.45
February:	\$5,372.68
March:	\$5,417.10
Total:	\$12,898.23

In Kind Donations:

Office furniture and supplies; personal hygiene products; food; kitchen and cleaning products, clothes; TVs; educational supplies; bikes and bike parts; toys; computers.

Grants Received this Quarter:

Lost Tree Village Foundation
JL Cares
Goldberger

Potential Grants:

E Pluribus Unum Award
Western Union Grant
Dollar General Grant
MetLife

V. MONTHLY EVENTS:

a. January:

- HIV/AIDS Awareness Presentation and Testing
- Bank of America Visit
- Movie Night
- Board and General Meetings
- Town Code Compliance Presentation
- Obama's Inauguration Ceremony Event at El Sol
- Worker's Council Meeting

b. February:

- Town Code Compliance Presentations
- NDLO Leadership seminar
- Bank of America Visit
- Health Fair: Eyes, VNA, Union Positiva, Palm Beach County Health Dept.
- Movie Night
- Worker's Council elections for Secretary and two representatives
- Habitat for Humanity Community Service Events
- Volunteer Recognition Event
- Homeopathic Medicine Presentation
- Worker's Council Meeting
- Know Your Rights Workshop

c. March:

- Sickle Cell Foundation Presentation
- Town Code Compliance Presentations
- ADD (Attention Deficit Disorder) Community Group Meeting
- American Friends Service Committee Attorney Presentation
- Movie Night
- VPK Registration
- Board of Directors and General Meetings
- Health Fair: Eyes, VNA, HIV
- Worker's Council Meeting

VI. QUARTERLY PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS

- El Sol's Health Program has developed several partnerships and brought many resources together to give access to healthcare to many underserved individuals in our community.
- With the Lost Tree Village Foundation grant we have been able to do major building improvements that help us better serve our community.
- We received a donation of computers for our lab, which allows us to give more up-to-date computer training.
- Overall, every program we coordinate has started the year by expanding and developing to better serve the community.
- The attendance in the Labor Center seems to follow last year's trend, with high attendance in January and lower worker attendance in February and March.