



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

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October 23, 2009

Dear Mayor Golonka and Members of the Council,

As part of its lease with the Town of Jupiter, El Sol is pleased to submit its quarterly report for the months of July, August, and September 2009.

In this third quarter of 2009, El Sol continued developing its organizational capacity to better serve our community. El Sol's beneficiaries attend our center not only for our daily labor hall, but also for the variety of educational programs we offer. In an effort to strengthen all our educational programs, El Sol made structural changes to hire a full-time Education Coordinator. This was made possible through a variety of grants recently awarded to El Sol. In August, Kathryn Klaas started working as El Sol's new Education Coordinator.

In this quarter, we started a pilot education program called "Plazas Comunitarias" in partnership with the Consulate of Mexico in Miami and the Mexican Institute of Adult Education. We have also been able to strengthen both the nighttime and daytime ESL curriculum, provide additional training to volunteer teachers, and start planning for innovative financial and vocational training seminars.

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

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 its day labor program seven days a week. Workers come to the labor center to look for day labor, and employers use our center to hire workers for the day.

a. **Workers Statistics:**

A total of 1,693 workers are registered with El Sol as of September 30, 2009.

Workers Attendance:

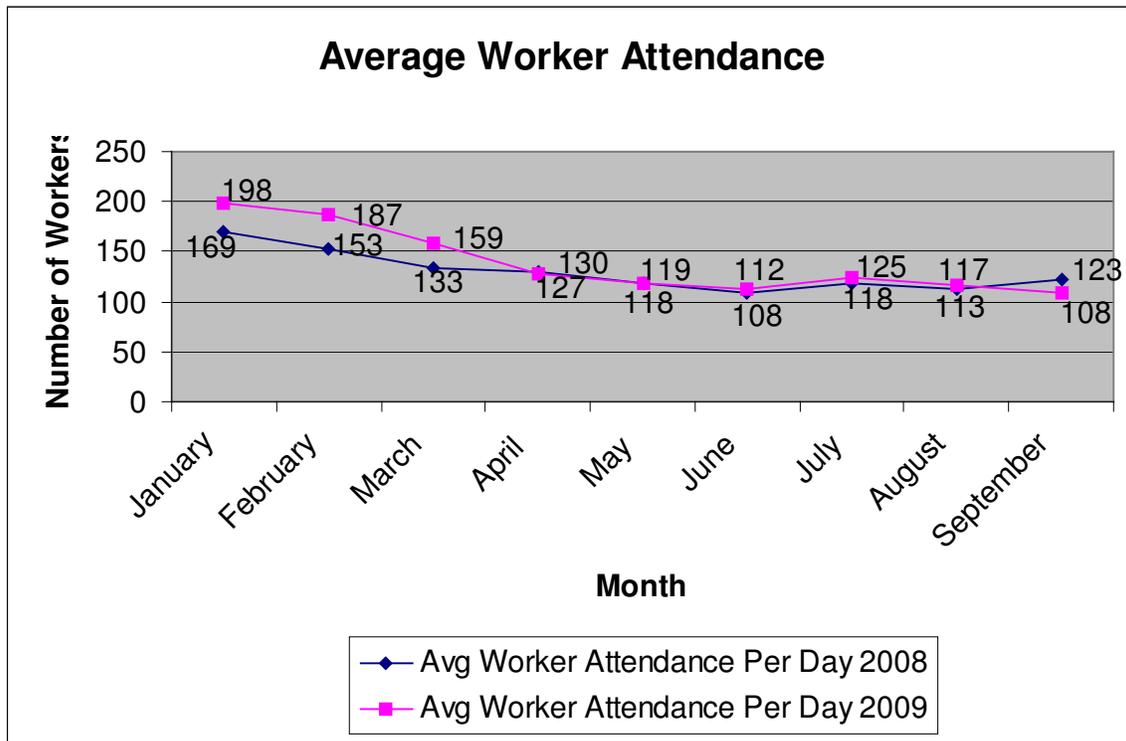
Worker attendance at the center totaled 10,745 workers this quarter¹. On average, the center served 117 workers per day. The monthly breakdown is:

July:	125 per day on average (12% increase from previous month)
August:	117 per day on average (6% decrease from previous month)
September:	108 per day on average (8% decrease from previous month)

Workers Hired:

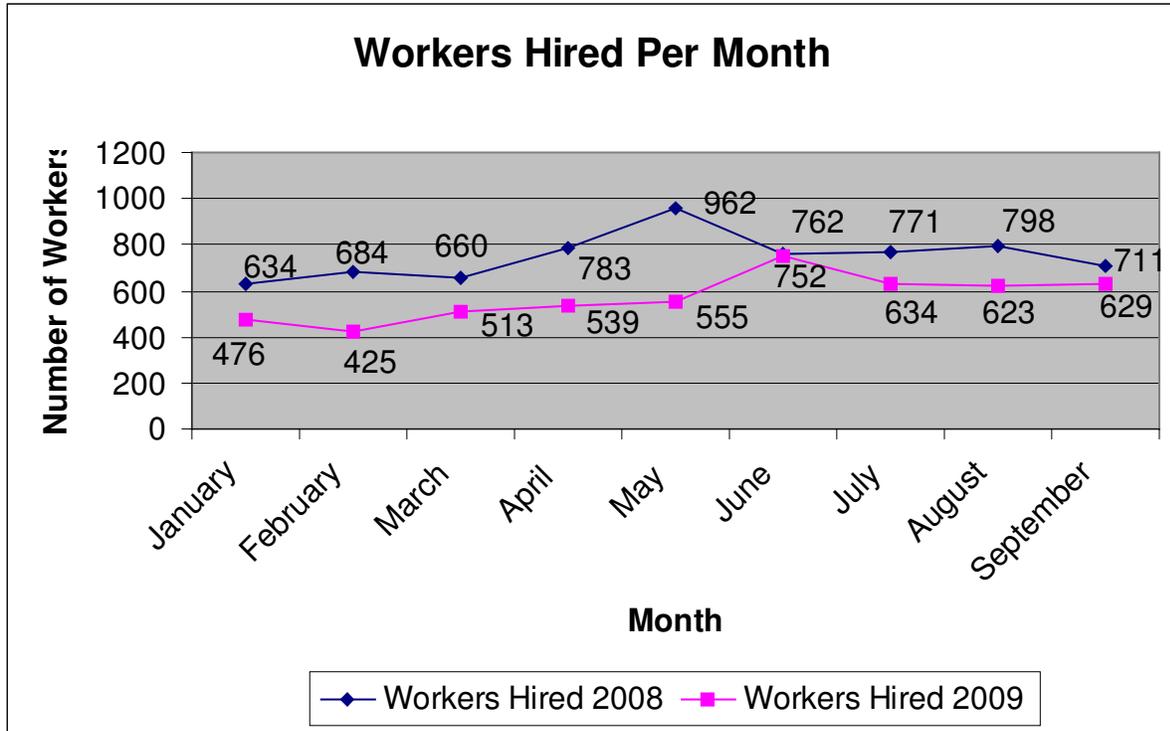
A total of 1,886 workers were placed in jobs this quarter. On average, 20 workers were hired per day, which equals a 17% placement rate. The monthly breakdown is:

July:	634 workers hired; 20 per day on average; 16% placement
August:	623 workers hired; 20 per day on average; 17% placement
September:	629 workers hired; 21 per day on average; 19% placement



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

Worker attendance for 2009 is comparable to 2008. However, on September of last year we started seeing an increase in worker attendance; this year September has had the lowest total worker attendance this year. This change may be due to people returning to their home countries in response to the economic crisis and also the extended summer in northern states. We are expecting an increase in worker attendance in the last quarter of 2009.



The number of workers hired this year per month is, on average, 24% lower than last year.

b. Employer Statistics

A total of 3,047 employers are registered with El Sol as of September 30, 2009. In this quarter a total of 268 new employers registered to use our services. 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.

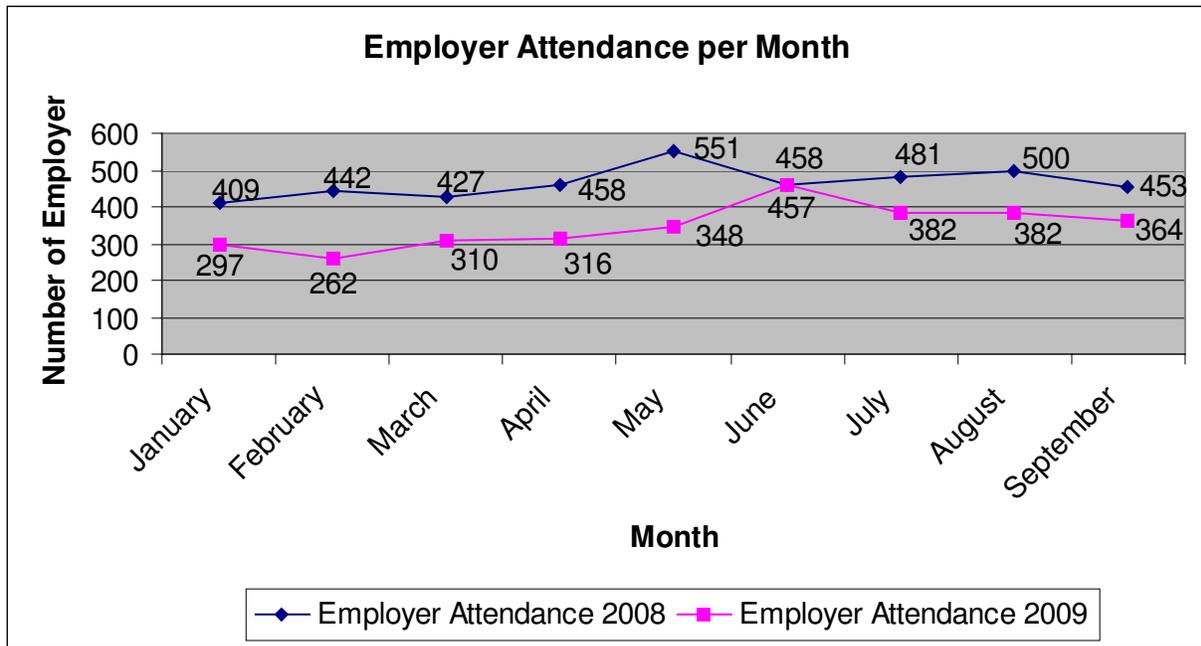
The monthly breakdown of *new* employers is as follows:

- July: 111 new employers
- August: 96 new employers
- September: 61 new employers

Employers Attendance

A total of 1,128 employers/homeowners came to hire workers this quarter. The monthly breakdown is:

- July: 382 employers (16% decrease from previous month)
- August: 382 employers (no change from previous month)
- September: 364 employers (5% decrease from previous month)



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 (FAU) and Palm Beach Community College (PBCC) to offer a formal ESL program to the Jupiter community. Our curriculum is based on the Palm Beach County School District’s ESL curriculum, and incorporates English vocabulary and grammar with life skills. As a result, English is presented in a way that students simultaneously acquire skills and knowledge that will help improve their quality of life. This semester’s ESL program has increased the emphasis placed on incorporating life skills into the curriculum, and the themes for this semester are “Workforce Development” and “Healthy Living.” This quarter, FAU Corn Maya Club donated \$200 worth of educational supplies for students.

El Sol offers ESL classes three nights a week from 7-9PM, and each student is placed in one of four levels: level A (for beginners), B, C, and D (most advanced). The Fall 2009 semester began on September 8 and will conclude on November 10. Classes are taught by volunteers from the local community and students from FAU and PBCC. Thirty individuals volunteered to teach this semester. 114 students enrolled in the Fall 2009 semester and 20 students are female. In September student enrollment and attendance was as follows:

Level	Enrollment	Average Attendance
A	53	18
B	29	12
C	25	13
D	10	5
Total	114	48

Our Youth Leader Program allows us to offer free childcare to students attending nighttime ESL classes. This service enables students to attend classes who would be unable to due to family responsibilities. The Youth Leader prepares enriching activities for children while their parents are in class such as completing educational worksheets, teaching them songs with motions, doing crafts to hone their motor skills and promote creativity, and watching and discussing short film clips to encourage them to think critically about what they watch. Eighteen children are enrolled in the program, and, on average, ten children attend nightly.

Value of Program:	
Education Coordinator:	\$2,100
Youth Leader:	\$330
Volunteer Hours:	\$4,450 (228 hours)
Materials:	\$500
Total:	\$7,380

Daytime English Classes

El Sol offers a one-hour English class seven days a week, and classes are taught by community volunteers. These classes are available to individuals at El Sol while they wait for work and enable workers to make productive use of their “wait” time. In September, the Education Coordinator began providing lesson plans for volunteer teachers as opposed to the previous approach where teachers designed their own lessons. This new method streamlines the curriculum and ensures that students are learning practical vocabulary, grammar, and life skills each day; emphasis is placed on conversation and pronunciation. A total of 886 students attended daytime ESL classes this quarter. The monthly breakdown is as follows:

Month	Total Attendance	Average Attendance
July	288	9
August	307	10
September	291	10
Total	886	9.5

Value of Program:	
Education Coordinator:	\$2,100
Volunteers:	\$1,757 (90 hours)
Materials:	\$500
Total:	\$4,357

b. Spanish Literacy: Plazas Comunitarias

Plazas Comunitarias is an adult basic education program organized by the Mexican Institute of Education that provides migrants the opportunity to learn to read and write as well as complete their elementary and middle school education. In August, El Sol began offering Plazas Comunitarias classes, which allowed us to expand our Spanish Literacy program so that we now offer basic education classes as well as literacy classes. Providing this service is critical for strengthening our community because many migrants received little to no education as children and, through this program, they now have the opportunity to learn important math, reading,

social studies, and science skills. This educational opportunity is currently not available anywhere else in Palm Beach County.

The Fall 2009 semester began on September 3 and will end on November 14. Eight community volunteers teach classes and fifty-eight students enrolled in the program. Classes are given Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights from 7 – 9 PM. Average attendance is as follows:

Level	Average Attendance
Literacy	4
Elementary	2
Middle	11

Value of Program:

Education Coordinator:	\$924
Volunteer Hours:	\$1,288 (66 hours)
Materials:	\$200
Total:	\$2,312

c. Spanish Classes for English Speakers

In March 2009 El Sol started a pilot program for our volunteers who were interested in learning conversational Spanish. For two months, a seasonal volunteer taught a one-hour class on Tuesday mornings. When he returned to his northern home, the class opted to continue their lessons, rotating the leadership weekly. A core group of six has met every Tuesday morning for the past 7 months, learning rules for pronunciation and sentence construction, reading poetry, reinforcing vocabulary and verb tenses, and generally having a lot of fun while learning Spanish.

Value of Program:

Volunteers:	\$1,522 (78 hours)
Materials:	\$25
Total:	\$1,547

d. Workshops

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

- i. **Vocabulary Workshops:** Six PBCC Spanish students participated in a Service-Learning project by offering vocabulary tabletop workshops on a weekly basis at El Sol starting on September. These workshops helped El Sol workers learn useful words in English, while PBCC students practiced the same words in Spanish. A total of 42 students participated throughout the third quarter.
- ii. **Town of Jupiter Workshop:** El Sol and the Town of Jupiter have created a series of code compliance presentations and held informative seminars on a monthly basis. This quarter a total of 51 participants attended.

- iii. **Fire Safety:** Palm Beach County Firefighters trained El Sol workers on fire safety in public areas and at home. The workshop was offered to the entire workers assembly on August 20th. On August 25th, the Fire Rescue team came back to do a First Aid training workshop for staff and key volunteers.
- iv. **Pressure Cleaning:** 8 workers participated in a pressure-cleaning workshop offered on August 4th. Participants learned how to use a pressure cleaner on concrete floor and did hands-on practice around the El Sol building.
- v. **Carpet Cleaning:** 15 workers attended a carpet-cleaning workshop offered on July 28th. The workshop covered different style carpet cleaners, vacuums, and soaps. Participants did hands-on practice in the second floor of El Sol.

e. Computer Literacy

El Sol’s computer lab has 20 computers that were donated by the School District’s Digital Divide program. Every day, we have open computer lab time in which participants can use the computers and access the internet. Below is the monthly breakdown of participation:

July:	930 participants
August:	932 participants
September:	710 participants
Total:	2,572 participants

Nighttime Computer Classes

After summer break, on September 24th, El Sol began offering Computer Skills classes on Thursday nights from 7:00-9:00. In response to student demand for more instruction, classes will also be offered on Friday nights beginning in October. The classes are taught in Spanish by a volunteer teacher and teach students basic computer skills such as opening and closing programs, using the mouse, searching the Internet, sending emails, attaching files, and using Microsoft Word to create documents. Offering an evening class will allow students who cannot attend our morning computer class to learn these much needed skills as well. Eleven students attended the first class.

Value of Program:

Volunteers:	\$39 (2 hours)
Materials:	\$0
Total:	\$39

Daytime Computer Classes

Beginning in October, El Sol will offer a Computer Skills class on Monday and Friday mornings from 8:00-9:00. This class will be taught in Spanish by a volunteer with a background in teaching computer skills and will enable those waiting for work to make productive use of their wait time at El Sol. Students will learn basic computer skills and the instructor’s ultimate goal for the class is that students learn to write a letter in Microsoft Word that they can then email to their family at home.

f. 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. The program was closed during the summer and started operating again during the last week of September. School District Program Coordinators have been determining how many emancipated youth may qualify for the program this school year, and are aiming to begin Survival Life Skills class by Monday, October 12, 2009.

3. Community Service

El Sol coordinates monthly community service events in partnership with Habitat for Humanity and Solid Waste Authorities. This quarter El Sol workers volunteered a total of 311 hours, contributing back to the community a total of \$6,070.

Community Service III Quarter 2009						
Date	Name of Event / Partner	Number of Participants	Hours	Total Hours	Total \$Contribution	Activity performed
Jul-09	"Paint your Hearts out"	31	5	155	3,025.00	Painted two houses
Aug-09	Habitat for Humanity	18	6	108	2,108.00	Placed Plywood on roof
Sep-09	Rebuilding Together of the Palm Beaches	12	4	48	936.00	Landscaped a house
Total III QUARTER:		61	15	311	6,070.00	

Value of Program:

Volunteers: \$6,070 (311 hours)

Total: \$6,070



El Sol workers volunteering to clean up and landscape a home in Center Street

4. LEGAL

During the third quarter of 2009, forty-two intakes were opened by the El Sol legal team (attorneys Jill Hanson, Frank Harding and Cathleen Scott; four Florida International University law school students led by FIU intern Jeff Van Treese, and Lauren Vogt, from William & Mary law school in Virginia; legal assistant/translators Myrna Toro, Lillian Novoa, and Monica Salehi). Case types were primarily: immigration, criminal, driving without a license, unpaid wages, with other miscellaneous cases including insurance/auto accident, debt claims, and family law issues. We really appreciate the contributions of our legal team, all of who are very dedicated to serving the immigrant community with the very limited resources we have.

Law students attended and observed misdemeanor traffic court, accompanying a person who had been ticketed for driving without a license, and observing the way in which Hispanics are treated in court. Jill Hanson also accompanied two persons to court that had been ticketed for driving without a license.

This quarter, we were able to secure pro bono representation for one woman who had been ticketed for driving without a license, even though she was not even close to her car when she was ticketed; her pro bono attorney was able to secure dismissal of the ticket.

Jill Hanson also continued to assist with the representation of Andres Jimenez, who is challenging his detention by the Palm Beach Gardens police and subsequently, by Border Patrol, on the grounds of racial profiling, writing a motion for transfer of venue with the assistance of Florida Immigrant Coalition’s Know Your Rights director, Subhash Kateel, and taking the client to the University of Miami Law School, where he was interviewed to determine whether the Law School’s immigration legal clinic would undertake his representation. The Legal Clinic will represent him in a groundbreaking effort to show that immigrants cannot be lawfully detained if the initial stop was based on racial profiling.

We also held a second Know Your Rights workshop, to celebrate July 4, Independence Day. Workers who were trained at the last Know Your Rights workshop successfully led this workshop. More than 40 people attended, and heard testimonies by El Sol workers who had been held in immigration detention, so that all could understand what may happen if they might be held in detention.

On September 4, Jill Hanson was a featured speaker at the annual conference of the Florida chapter of the National Employment Lawyers Association. She spoke on the topic of “Representing Undocumented Workers.”

Finally, the lawsuit against the Palm Beach County Sheriff, Mendez v. Bradshaw, in which we are participating as a plaintiff, was filed. The lawsuit challenges as illegal a policy of the sheriff’s office to refuse bail, and to hold immigrants detained for even very minor offenses, at the request of ICE, even though there is no serious criminal offense. Most recently, a judge dismissed the felony charge against the lead plaintiff, and directed that he be released from custody immediately. Our participation in the lawsuit is based on the fact that we have had to spend our resources to help El Sol clients who have had similar difficulties because of what we allege is an illegal policy.

Value of Program:

Attorneys:	\$ 89,700	(23 hrs/ week x 13 weeks at \$300 per hr)
Law students:	\$ 37,375	(23 hrs/ week x 13 weeks at \$125 per hr)
Legal Secretary:	\$9,750	(10 hrs/ week x 13 weeks at \$75 per hr)
Legal Interpreters:	\$1,200	(4 hrs x 4 weeks at \$75 per hr)
Total:	\$138,025	

5. 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.

General Health: We offer services for individuals that need general checkups through our partnership with the Visiting Nurse Association (VNA). This quarter we hosted a VNA mobile health day on July 14th and again on August 18th. Providers and volunteers contributed a total of \$5,375 with their time and services.

Type of Service	Number of patients	Month	Number of Nurse Hours	Number of Volunteer hours
General Health	11	July 2009	3	7
General Health	13	August 2009	7	7

Eye Care: Lens Crafters was able to do an eye check on 3 patients this quarter and provide glasses through their Gift of Sight program. Also, six pterygium patients were referred to Caridad Clinic. All six patients were qualified as having strong cases of pterygium, an eye condition caused by prolonged exposure to the sun. Providers and volunteers contributed a total of \$515 with their time and services.

Dental Care: Several area dentists have partnered with El Sol to provide emergency dental care for patients with infection problems and severe pain. Dentists have helped seven patients with molar extractions and fillings. Providers and volunteers contributed a total of \$5,502 with their time and services.

Women’s Health: El Sol has also partnered with local gynecologist who provide pro bono services to women with health needs. Three patients were seen this quarter. Providers and volunteers contributed a total of \$6,370 with their time and services (which includes a surgical procedure).

Value of Health Program:	
General Health:	\$5,375
Eye Care:	\$515
Dental Care:	\$5,502
Women’s Health:	\$6,307
Total:	\$17,699

6. FOOD

Every day El Sol provides coffee and pastries for breakfast, and a hot meal for lunch. This is possible with the help of our volunteers and donations from various local businesses and organizations including Publix, Starbucks, St. Vincent De Paul, St. Peter’s Catholic Church, CR Chicks and more. In the third quarter of 2009 we served a total of 7,200 meals, an average of 80 meals daily. The breakdown per month is as follows:

July:	2,596 meals, 86 meals per day on average
August:	2,389 meals, 84 meals per day on average
September:	2,215 meals, 76 meals per day on average
Total:	7,200 meals, 80 meals per day on average

Value of Program:

Meals:	\$21,600 (7,200 meals at an estimated \$3 per meal)
Volunteers:	\$24,595 (1,260 hours)
Total:	\$46,195

7. PERSONAL COUNSELING

Sister Marta Tobón, a Guadalupean 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 22 cases; the monthly breakdown is as follows:

July: 12 cases	Value of Program:
August: 2 cases	Volunteer: \$878 (45 hours)
September: 8 cases	Total: \$878
Total: 22 cases	

8. 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, 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: 3,283 hours.

El Sol had four interns from Florida Atlantic University’s Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College. The internship opportunities at El Sol allow interns to learn the inner-workings of non-profit organizations. Responsibilities assigned include: grant writing, administrative assistance, event planning, teaching, lesson-plan development, worker registration and program support. The interns contributed a total of 115 hours during the third quarter of 2009.

Value of Contributions:

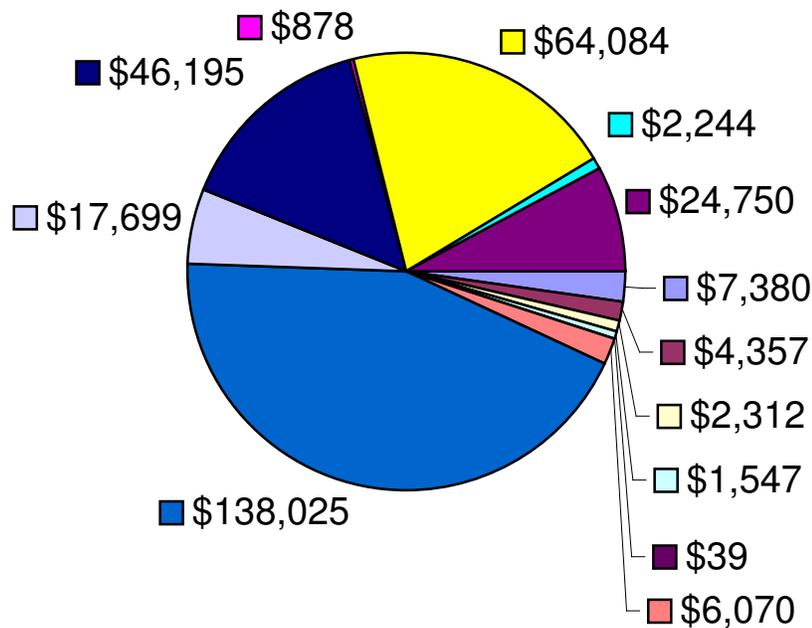
Volunteers (Other):	\$64,084 (3,283 hours)
Interns:	\$2,244 (115 hours)

III. VALUE OF EL SOL SERVICES

El Sol provided a total of \$315,580 in services to the Jupiter Community this Quarter.

Nighttime ESL Program	\$7,380
Daytime ESL Program	\$4,357
Plazas Comunitarias	\$2,312
Spanish Language Classes	\$1,547
Computer Literacy	\$39
Community Service	\$6,070
Legal Program	\$138,025
Health Program	\$17,699
Food Program	\$46,195
Personal Counsel Program	\$878
Volunteers (Other)	\$64,084
Interns	\$2,244
Staff (3 Full-Time)	\$24,750
TOTAL	\$315,580

Program Contributions: Quarter III



Night ESL	Day ESL	Plazas Com.	Spanish	Computer
Community Srv.	Legal	Health	Food	Personal Counsel
Volunteers	Interns	Staff		

IV. MONTHLY EVENTS:

a. July:

- Grantsmanship Training Workshop Offered to Volunteers
- Town Code Compliance Presentation
- Know Your Rights Workshop
- Alcoholics Anonymous Presentation
- Children Services Council - Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Focus Group
- Visiting Nurses Association, Mobile Health Clinic
- Board Meeting
- General Meeting
- Couples Night, Event hosted by St. Peter's Church at El Sol
- Solid Waste Authorities, Paint Your Heart Out Community Service Event

b. August:

- Education Coordinator begins working full time at El Sol
- Meeting with Project Access and the Palm Beach Health Alliance
- Bank of America Financial Information
- Town Code Compliance Presentation
- Movie Night "Viva Cuba"
- Artist Registration for El Sol's 2nd Annual Art Fest
- Journey Church Service day at El Sol
- Visiting Nurses Association, Mobile Health Clinic
- Fire Rescue Presentation for Workers Assembly
- Kitchen Committee Meeting
- Habitat for Humanity, Community Service Event
- Nighttime ESL Program Registration
- PBCC Spanish Class Presentations
- INCEDES, Academic Research Symposium with Guatemalan Immigrants

c. September:

- PBCC Students tour El Sol
- Plazas Comunitarias and Nighttime ESL Program begin
- Town Code Compliance Presentation
- El Sol 3rd Anniversary
- El Sol Participates in NDLOM's National Assembly
- Guatemalan Independence Day, Celebrated with the Consulate of Guatemala
- Title 1: Migrant Education Program begins
- Solid Waste Authorities, Community Service Event
- Hispanic Heritage Event in partnership with PBCC and Cold Stone Creamery
- Grantsmanship Training Workshop for Community Members