Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the families we serve at El Sol, Jupiter’s Neighborhood Resource Center (El Sol), I want to offer my most sincere thanks for your support in 2018. El Sol is a shining example of a community coming together to address its particular needs. Starting primarily as a day labor center, it has expanded into a true neighborhood resource center serving Jupiter residents. People from diverse backgrounds, different levels of education, different cultures and ethnicities all come through our doors with individual dreams and aspirations. These may be to build a home for themselves, find stable income or learn a new trade. Some want to learn how to read and write in their native tongue, others work hard at learning English. All have in common the desire to provide a better future for themselves and their families.

El Sol has become a model for communities throughout the whole nation who are facing similar issues. Many factors have contributed to the success of El Sol: a public/private partnership with the Town of Jupiter, the support of private foundations and individual donors and the collaboration with the Jupiter Police Department, local schools, and so many other community organizations. Our incredible staff works side by side with an amazing team of volunteers; local residents who not only contribute to the work we do but learn every day from the same people they are serving.

We invite you to join us as we continue to work towards a better Jupiter! If you need an extra pair of hands for a project at work or at home consider hiring a worker for the day; if you are looking for a special place to volunteer and share your experience and talents give us a call; or help us transform someone’s life with a monetary donation.

Please let me know if you would like any further information or have any questions. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

Suzanne Cordero
Executive Director
Suzanne@friendsofelsol.org

Pictured: El Sol Executive Director Suzanne Cordero

MISSION
El Sol, Jupiter’s Neighborhood Resource Center (El Sol) exists to improve the quality of life for the residents of Jupiter and surrounding communities by providing services primarily to day laborers, their children and families.

1,310 unique clients were assisted in 2018 in Jupiter through our seven programs.

5,000 workers and 15,000 Employers registered in our system since 2006.
LABOR
Provide day labor opportunities, which result in meaningful work and income for workers and access to day laborers for employers.

Moving the chaotic, outdoor labor market indoors and creating a fair and organized system was the first priority of El Sol. The labor hall, open to all Jupiter residents, continues to be the heart of our organization. El Sol facilitates day labor opportunities resulting in meaningful work and income for workers. Businesses and homeowners have access to a hard-working, reliable labor force.

- Day Labor Hall
- Worker Development
- Vocational Training
- Case Management

For the year, an average of 88 community members registered at El Sol each morning with 60 members registered specifically for work for that day. Of the 60, on average 41 workers were hired each day.

722
Unduplicated Workers

15,034
Jobs Filled

284
New Workers

1,326
New Employers

Since El Sol began offering scholarships for the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) courses at Palm Beach State College (PBSC), Angel has been eager to participate. Last fall, Angel became part of El Sol’s second cohort of students. He successfully completed the Bridge and Core (basic construction skills) classes and immediately moved onto the Level 1 Electrical specialty course. Angel has scored 100% on nearly every weekly exam in all three stages of the seven-month program and also has been a big force in motivating his El Sol colleagues in class to succeed as well. When asked about his motivation for taking the course, he explained that he tries to grab every opportunity that comes his way, so he can push himself to do better. Angel said, “Not everybody gets opportunities, so when you have one, you just have to go for it.”

183 workers graduated from classes and workshops, and of those, 46% secured new income directly due to El Sol training classes.
ADULT EDUCATION
Empowers people to improve their financial self-sufficiency and economic freedom for themselves and their families by removing barriers to employment.

One of the immediate needs that became apparent after establishing the labor hall was adult education, especially English classes. Adult ed improves financial self-sufficiency by removing barriers to employment.

- English for Speakers of Other Language Classes
- Plazas Comunitarias - adult education classes for Spanish speakers
- Computer Literacy
- Conversational English Classes
- Table Talk Daytime English Classes
- Spanish classes for English Speakers

PLAZAS COMUNITARIAS

THELMA’S STORY

After living in New Jersey for 22 years Thelma and her family decided to make the big move to South Florida. As she settled in her new home, Thelma realized she was in need of help. Thelma’s landlord told her about a local day labor center where she could hire people to help her move furniture. She came to El Sol, to hire two workers. One of the men told her about the education opportunities available at El Sol. She was enthused to learn that she could further her education. Thelma had only completed a fourth grade education in Guatemala but was determined to finish her schooling. She registered to become a member of El Sol and during her initial meeting with a case manager she learned she could enroll in Plazas Comunitarias, an adult education program available at no cost to anyone needing to complete primary and secondary studies.

Thelma had her goal set, she wanted her primary school certificate in hand and she was willing to put in the time, and effort to make it happen. During the time she was not attending class, Thelma waited for work in El Sol’s Labor Hall. One week prior to Thanksgiving, Thelma’s name was called and after a brief negotiation she was off to work. The employer who hired her that day noticed Thelma’s attention to detail and her experience in the field. The employer was so impressed with her that at the end of the day the employer offered her a full-time job. However, Thelma had a vision, she wanted to start her own cleaning company and had already filed the paperwork. It was only a matter of time before her business permit was approved. Thelma shared her vision with the employer and offered to work for her while she was available. The employer was so taken by Thelma’s entrepreneurship that she referred her to other family members.

Exactly six months since her arrival to Jupiter, Thelma is now the proud owner of Tropical Fresh and Clean LLC. Thelma shared, “I’m grateful to El Sol for providing me the opportunity to further my education, find work, and allow me to meet new people. I’ve hired two women from El Sol to assist me and as the company grows I will return to El Sol to hire more people.”

CORE VALUES
Responsible Stewardship
We prudently manage all human and financial resources invested in us.

Students Graduated a Level of English

99

Students Graduated from Computer

26

Students Graduated a level within Plazas

7
HEALTH
Expand our clients’ capacity to be healthy and have active voices in their own lives and community. Health concerns can be barriers to employment and financial independence. To address these needs, El Sol started referring clients to outside providers and in cooperation with the Town of Jupiter, Jupiter Medical Center and private donors, MyClinic, a free medical clinic has opened its doors. El Sol continues to provide referrals, early screenings and health education to its clients expanding their capacity to be healthy and have active voices in their own lives and community.

- Health Referrals
- Peer to Peer Health Promoters
- Health Education
- FoundCare HIV/AIDS Testing

In addition, the Promotores de Salud Program reached 819 people in the community discussing health issues to educate the community.

CORE VALUES
Respect for Others
We embrace each other’s differences and nurture an environment of fairness and equality.

HEALTH INFORMATION & EDUCATION

TOMAZA’S STORY

Tomaza has not been to a Doctor in some time. Recent stress from moving to a new country, knowing she needs to learn a new language, and having an adult daughter with a disability started to affect her.

Tomaza was feeling dizzy, disoriented and anxious. After visiting El Sol’s Health Coordinator who provided her with MyClinic information, Tomaza was able to register and be seen by a Doctor who diagnosed her with hypertension. The medication was new to her and she needed to remember to take it every day and at the same time each day.

One Saturday while attending El Sol’s ESL class, Tomaza was not feeling well. She again met El Sol Health Coordinator who was able to discuss with her the instructions for her medication that she forgot to take that day. The anxious feelings she was experiencing were not nerves but not understanding the proper use of her medication. El Sol Health Coordinator was able to translate her medication information, nutrition advice, and the need for light exercise.
COMMUNITY LIFE
Create and promote opportunities for integration that build bridges between families in our community.

When immigrant culture, values and identity are strengthened and successfully integrated, community life is enriched for everyone. For two-way integration to happen people must know each other. El Sol creates and promotes opportunities that allow people to connect and build bridges between our clients and our community.

- Volunteer Program
- Community Service and Events
- Annual El Sol Fest
- Jupiter Tequesta Athletic Association
- Soccer Tournament with Town of Jupiter Police Department
- Santa in the Park with Town of Jupiter Police Department

CORE VALUES
Immigration Integration
We foster the integration of immigrants into the entire community.

332 Volunteers
11,596 Volunteer Hours
945 Community service hours given back by El Sol Clients

VOLUNTEERS
FRANK’S STORY
Frank began volunteering at El Sol in September 2016. Frank shared, “When I signed up to volunteer they asked me what I was interested in helping out with and my response was the garden.” When Frank was young he loved gardening and thought that he would one day work in a nursery but that was not the outcome. Frank’s love for gardening came from his mother and Frank fondly remembers his mother sending him outside to get fresh produce from their garden for dinner. Frank now spends every Wednesday and Friday during the winter and Wednesday, Friday and Saturday during the summer volunteering in El Sol’s Sunshine Organic Community Garden to help feed those in need in our community.
LEGAL
Provide an avenue of information and education about the American legal system.

The outdoor labor market provided no protection to workers from wage theft and other abuses. Legal volunteers quickly stepped up and soon were handling these types of cases and many more like domestic violence, landlord-tenant disputes and immigration. The legal program provides access to information and education about the US legal system, rights and responsibilities.

- Legal Referrals
- Legal Education
- Town of Jupiter Code Compliance

VISION
El Sol envisions a harmonious integrated community in which all people can reach their highest potential. We seek for Jupiter to be a model for other communities serving day laborers and their families.

LEGAL NAVIGATION
MARVIN’S STORY

Marvin came to the United States from Costa Rica when he was 11 years old with his Nicaragua born mother and American Soldier Father. In 2005, Marvin lost all his valid identification papers including his U.S. Passport. His parents passed on and he had no documents to identify his citizenship. Marvin tried on his own to attain his birth certificate from Costa Rica and his naturalization papers from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. In 2018, Marvin began to have major health issues, including a clogged artery that needed surgery. Every visit to the doctor was an ordeal; not only because of his health issues but also because the first thing they ask for was his ID. His doctors’ office worked with him not having a valid ID but his doctor could not schedule the needed surgery without a valid ID. Desperate for legal assistance Marvin came to El Sol. After a brief interview with El Sol’s Legal Coordinator, it was clear that Marvin was looking for information to confirm his identity in the wrong places. Marvin acquired his U.S. Citizenship at birth because his father was a U.S. Citizen and registered Marvin’s birth with the Department of State. With a $55 fee document search with the Department of State, Marvin now has all the documents needed to prove that he is a U.S. Citizen.
FOOD AND NUTRITION
Help to fight hunger in America and encourage healthier eating by providing food security to the neediest families in the community.

The average day laborer makes only between $60-100 a day and works 3-4 days a week. When they don’t work, they can’t afford a decent meal. Thanks to the generosity of the larger community and very dedicated volunteers we now offer breakfast and a hot, nutritious lunch. During the years of the recession, this meal was typically the only meal the workers would have for the day. Today we fight hunger in Jupiter and also educate our clients on the importance of healthy eating.

• Hot Meal Program
• Nutrition Education
• CROS Ministries Food Pantry
• Sunshine Organic Community Garden
• Farmers Market

GARDEN

2,148 lbs of Food Harvested
264 Clients Received Food From the Garden

HOT MEAL PROGRAM

9,259 Meals Served
1,217 Nutrition Workshop Attendees

KITCHEN TRAINING PROGRAM
JOSE’S STORY

Our new Kitchen Training Program, funded partially by Extraordinary Charities, was launched in January 2018. El Sol expanded our kitchen services from providing food assistance to our community members in need to also provide our clients with marketable job skills that can help them find more stable income. El Sol is not only providing the immediate assistance they need today, but helping them prepare for a brighter tomorrow.

One of the graduates from the El Sol Kitchen Training Program (KTP) is beginning to realize the benefits of hard work and successful training. Jose dreamed of becoming a chef one day, and worked for seven years, as a kitchen aide. Jose is on his way to completing his dream, after completing El Sol’s KTP. Jose has been offered a full-time job managing a kitchen and is excited to see that the studies and certification of the KTP program are now paying off.
CHILD DEVELOPMENT
Support the healthy development of children and equip parents with tools to strengthen family bonds and community engagement.

Child Development is El Sol’s newest area of focus. Our goal is to strengthen family bonds and help parents raise independent, healthy and strong children who in turn will contribute to the overall community.

- Summer Camp
- School for Parents
- Read-A-Recipe Classes
- Art Classes
- Music Classes
- Unique and Powerful Girls Book Club
- Supporting local public schools; Jupiter Elementary School, Limestone Creek Elementary School, Jerry Thomas Elementary School, Jupiter Middle School, and Jupiter Community High School.

Alexa is an intelligent, caring young lady for her age; at 13 years old she is a leader. Alexa was instrumental in the creation of El Sol’s Unique and Powerful Girls Book at Jupiter Middle school. Her love of reading is infectious. Alexa first started a book club in her home with three friends.

In 2018, Alex was nominated as a Starr Student by her teacher Ms. Baker. Starr nominees are chosen by their teacher not only on academics but based on possessing respect, responsibility and resilience. You see, Alexa came to the United States at nine years of age, she did not speak English but was able to learn the language in one year. In the first year, her parents enrolled her at The Edna W. Runner Tutorial Center.

In 2016, her mom Inez and stepfather Refugio participated and completed El Sol’s School for Parents Program whose primary objectives are to strengthen parenting skills, get them access to a network of resources such as summer camps, holiday events, back to school activities, and college readiness services, increase awareness of the importance of parental involvement in a child’s life, and finally connect them to services and information to help them positively integrate into the community.

Alexa has a close and loving family. Her mom Inez is a community leader. She has helped many new moms by hosting baby showers here at El Sol with items donated from our community members. Her dad Alex and stepfather Refugio are involved, loving, supportive positive role models in her life. In return Alexa is a role model to her siblings Diego and Samantha.

THE UNIQUE AND POWERFUL GIRLS BOOK CLUB
ALEXA’S STORY

Parents Program whose primary objectives are to strengthen parenting skills, get them access to a network of resources such as summer camps, holiday events, back to school activities, and college readiness services, increase awareness of the importance of parental involvement in a child’s life, and finally connect them to services and information to help them positively integrate into the community.

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2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Timothy Steigenga, Professor
Florida Atlantic University

Lee McCarthy
Local Private Business Owner, Community Member

Phillip (PJ) Willis
SunTrust Bank

Sources of Income

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
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<tr>
<td>Foundations</td>
<td>$388,783</td>
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<td>In-Kind</td>
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<td>Individuals</td>
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<td>Nonprofits</td>
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<td>Business</td>
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<td>Other Income</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,255,659</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,281,429</strong></td>
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Expenses including in-kind

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<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
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<th>2018</th>
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<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td>$1,208,667</td>
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<td>Supporting Services</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,298,922</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,277,663</strong></td>
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In 2018, including cash expenses and in-kind services, El Sol contributed services to the Town of Jupiter with an estimated value of $1,552,497.

$0.92 of every $1 goes directly to El Sol Programs.
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