



*"I was once a student in the program.  
Now I'm more than that. I am a leader."*

*-Dwane M., ELK alumnus who now works at  
the National Park Service*



# Annual Report 2009



## Mission

ELK cultivates a passion in science, leadership and development in a diverse community of learners.

## Vision

ELK envisions a world in which all people are caretakers of themselves, each other and the natural world.

## Values

- Life-long learning
- Diversity and inclusiveness
- Direct experience in the outdoors
- Development of human potential

## Focus Areas

**ELK introduces** underserved youth to Colorado's natural resources

**ELK immerses** youth in science and education, career development, and mentoring

**ELK invests** in developing youth as stewards and engaged citizens, while cultivating a strong educational value to ensure high school and college graduation

***“There is a beauty, belief, strength, determination, and confidences because ELK has paved the way for achievement. They have become the backbone of the people they help. ELK touches the soul of one person, so that person can touch the soul of another. ELK is beauty.”***

***-Chiquita C., ELK Alumnus and University of Northern Colorado graduate, May 2010***

*All photos copyright Environmental Learning for Kids*

## ELK's Programs

ELK serves more than 19,000 people in Adams, Arapahoe, and Denver Counties with our programs:

**School-based Programs** offer a selection of science and natural resource programs to public and private schools, youth organizations, home school groups and other community-based groups in Colorado. Program fees vary depending on length, location and size of group. We can customize a program for you.

**Denver Youth Naturally (DYN)** brings youth ages 8-18 together in a hands-on, active program that provides opportunities for them to experience and learn about Colorado's great outdoors. DYN ignites curiosity and inspires youth in their academic studies, leadership development and career exploration.

**Youth in Natural Resources (YNR)** encourages youth, ages 14-18, to explore career options, gain work experience in the natural resource and science fields, and continue their education after high school.

**Learning Environmental Activities for Families (LEAF)** brings families into ELK's community of learning. LEAF strengthens the support system for youth to succeed by providing a multi-generational mentoring system. Participants take part in healthy outdoor activities and establish strong family bonds while learning about science and community stewardship.



## ELK Facts

98% of ELK's year-round students graduate from high school

The demographics of ELK youth are: 48% African-American, 42% Latino, and 10% Asian/White/other

83% of students in ELK's school-based programs qualify for free or reduced lunches

Over 63% who are in college are in a science related field

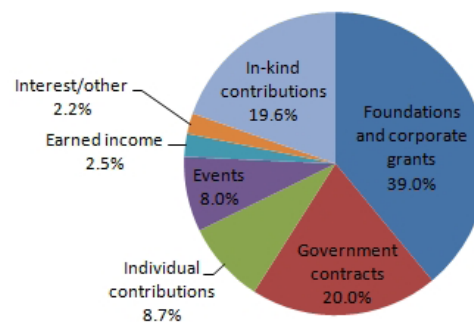
Over 80% who have graduated are in a science related field

ELK has raised over \$165,000 in college scholarships

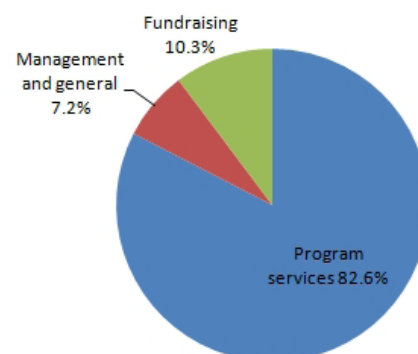
## 2009 Financial Activity

Revenue and other support	Amount
Foundations and corporate grants	\$127,006
Government contracts	65,205
Individual contributions	28,445
Events	25,989
Earned income	8,017
Interest/other	7,138
In-kind contributions	63,905
<b>Total revenue and other support</b>	<b>\$325,705</b>
Expense	Amount
Program services	\$262,222
Supporting services	
Management and general	22,791
Fundraising	32,553
<b>Total expense</b>	<b>\$317,566</b>
<b>Change in net assets</b>	<b>\$8,139</b>

### Income



### Expenses





***"ELK staff are friendly, fun, and well educated about not only science, but in empowering children of color. They really go the extra mile to make sure kids learn and feel a sense of ownership about the environment."***

***-Meridia Frugata, Principal, Marrama Elementary School, Denver Public Schools***

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ELK Alumnus

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**Kim Glatz**  
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**Dwane Matthews**  
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**Hugo Valdez**  
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*Making It Possible.*

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