

2010 *Your Impact* REPORT 2011



Changed Lives and Renewed Hope

Dear friend of Elim,

As I reflect on the past year at Elim, I am profoundly grateful for God's hand of blessing and protection. In these challenging times, the professionalism, love, and care of our dedicated staff are a life-giving resource not only to children and adults with special needs but also to families and providers from around the world.

In the past year, each of Elim's programs has grown stronger and more sustainable because of their commitment to best practices. One such example is the newly implemented Crossroads program in the school. This program focuses on the unique needs of high school students and their families, helping them prepare for a crisis point in their lives – the shift from the relative stability of children's services to the uncertainties of adult services and funding.

Elim's Adult Services program recently earned an exemplary, level one accreditation from the State of Illinois. Elim's Adult Services program emphasizes the holistic development of each adult by engaging them in purposeful activities and meaningful relationships built on a platform of vocational training, social skill development, and recreational leisure activities.

Elim's commitment to best practices has also resulted in the launch of ACHIEVE, a program which addresses the moderate learning needs of children that stretch beyond the services provided in the existing Discovery program(s). A pilot program for ACHIEVE has been launched in nearby Highland Christian School.

As you read through the contents of this annual report and take note of how the lives of our children and adults are being changed to the glory of God, I encourage you to consider how by God's grace you are a part of that change. Be assured that your investment in changing lives also ushers in renewed hope that God uses to transform the world. Thank you!

In gratitude for your partnership,

Bill Lodewyk
President, Elim Christian Services

September 2010

- Tootsie Roll Drive in Chicago suburbs raises enough funds to purchase three SMARTBoards for Elim classrooms.
- Elim hosts its fifteenth annual Dutch Festival. Over 5,000 people attend; volunteers raise record funds totaling over \$200,000.

October 2010

- Elim travels to Los Cipreses, Peru, building relationships and beginning to share special needs expertise.
- Elim hosts first-ever "Together We Serve" event, a third-Saturday volunteer opportunity for church members.

February 2011

- Board approves Strategic Vision Plan, a document detailing specific steps and goals related to the vision of becoming a Resource Center of special needs expertise.

Elim Adult Services



Elim Adults Give Back

Elim's adults love to bless others! And in 2010-2011 they had lots of chances to do so as Elim's Adult Services program expanded their service-learning opportunities.

Throughout the year, Elim's adults enthusiastically cleaned toys at the Ronald McDonald House and brought food and stocked shelves at the Midlothian Food Pantry. Several women helped with childcare services bi-monthly at

local churches' Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) programs, allowing mothers much-needed time to participate in Bible study and fellowship. At Christmas, Elim's adults were found wrapping toys and teddy bears for kids at Children's Hunger Fund. These adults also served several times at a fresh market pantry through Breakthrough Urban Ministries, providing fresh produce to those who needed it.

While these opportunities obviously bless others, they also give Elim's adults an opportunity to build socialization skills as they work alongside community volunteers. Elim's staff recently celebrated a major communication accomplishment at a World Vision event. Elim's adults were stocking shelves with school supplies and one Elim woman was struggling to open a box. Although she usually speaks with the aid of a communication device, she was able to appropriately ask a neighboring volunteer for assistance even without her device. What a milestone!

Elim staff member Lynne Huiner works closely with Elim's adults in their service-learning events. She feels the opportunities are beneficial to all. "I love to watch the adults realize that they have the ability to give back to others around them. They feel so good about their work, they want to do it again."

Ministry Highlights

April 2011

- Geeta Mondol visits from India with encouraging reports on sharing Elim's philosophy and special needs expertise.
- School task force completes work on transitions program for students approaching graduation, named "Crossroads."
- Special Education Gap task force completes work on Christian School inclusion program, called "Achieve."

May 2011

- "Eagles Wings 5K" takes its inaugural flight, fully run by volunteers from Elim's school program.
- Illinois Department of Human Services finds Adult Services to be in 100% compliance, earning Elim a Level 1 Accreditation.
- Board approves renovations for Crossroads transitions program and improved space for ACE (autism) Program.

June 2011

- Two car shows in one month! Scott's Garage of Alsip, Illinois, and Schepel Buick/GMC/Cadillac of Merrillville, Indiana, each host car shows to raise over \$20,000 for Elim.

Communication Technology With a Custom Fit

For adults with disabilities, assistive technology is adapted to each individual's life story. Each Elim adult has his or her own routine, specific interests, and needs. So naturally, when an Elim adult begins to use a communication device, it is adapted to complement how they engage within their environment.

Mohammad Dahbur, an adult at Elim, is hoping to receive his own communication device soon. During his application process for a device, Mohammad has been using a trial device to help assess his ability and interest in using this type of technology. Elim staff members work closely with Mohammad's family to determine what words should be accessible to him by considering carefully what his interests are and in what activities he participates. Words that he uses to call on his siblings or engage in community activities or even favorite movies or music are entered into the device for his reference and use.



Mohammed is learning to use a communication device, thanks in part to the help of Bob Foster, an Adult Services staff member (seen here on the right with Mohammed on the workflow).

Tammy, Mohammad's mother, is hopeful that as Mohammad develops more comfort with his communication device, he will be more dependent on communicating through it. "He has been using less sign language and I think it would be great for him to have the opportunity to share more of what he is thinking. We all know that he is smart and has a lot of things to say!"

That is our hope at Elim, too. We want to help Mohammad reach his highest God-given potential by supporting him in his ability to communicate his heart to those he cares about and interacts with. Please keep Mohammad and all of the students and adults in your prayers as we work together to achieve this goal!



New Classes Added

Elim's Adult Services program introduced a number of new classes this year. One of the most popular may be the new groundskeeping class. Elim adults are able to work outdoors at Elim's Orland Park campus, mowing the lawn, picking up litter, and pulling weeds.

While the class teaches vocational skills, it's also a lot of fun. Tony Rogers oversees the program and explains how it benefits the adults saying, "We have so many volunteers for this class! Our adults love being outside in the nice weather and take a lot of pride in the appearance of our building!"

Additionally, Adult Services introduced a housekeeping class in 2010-2011. Through this class, teams of Elim adults complete light cleaning projects, learning skills they can utilize after they leave Elim's day Adult Services programming.

ADULT SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS

- Number of adults currently served: 215
- Number of staff members: 47
- Number of campuses: 2

Ministry Outreach

Discovery

Discovery Helps Students Build Reading Skills

Approximately 85 students strengthened their auditory processing and language skills through the Fast ForWord program this year through their schools' Discovery Centers. Fast ForWord is an intense, computer-based program which helps children acquire important reading skills.

Additionally, 17 students took part in Discovery's newest program, Interactive Metronome, this summer. Interactive Metronome (IM) is a brain-based training program developed to directly improve the processing abilities that affect attention, motor planning, and sequencing. This, in turn, strengthens motor skills and many fundamental cognitive skills such as planning, organizing, and language.

Discovery Centers Grow Nationwide

Two new schools have been added to Elim's Discovery Network. The students of Northwest Iowa Protestant Reformed School in Doon, Iowa, and Hull Protestant Reformed School in Hull, Iowa, will now benefit from the academic assistance and testing provided through their new Discovery Centers in the 2011-2012 school year.

With the addition of these two new schools, Discovery Centers are now found in 19 schools and staffed with 26 teachers!

DISCOVERY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Number of students served in the Discovery programs: approximately 550
- Number of Discovery Centers: 19
- Number of staff: 28



Donna (left) interacts with a church member during an Elim HOPE Packs supply drive kick-off. Donna loves assembling school and food packs.

Elim HOPE Packs Double the Blessing

Donna, an Elim adult, loves sending Elim HOPE Packs filled with rice and beans to other countries. She also enjoys assembling school packs, taking pride in her work. She feels happy when she assembles the packs, saying, "I love those children and God loves them, too!"

One of the children that Donna is able to help is nine-year-old Nerilie Anne Presenta. Nerilie lives in the Philippines with her family. She was thrilled to receive an Elim HOPE Pack filled with school supplies last year. Because of this pack, assembled by adults like Donna, Nerilie will be able to enter fourth grade this year. She recently said, "I pray that the Lord will bless those who prepared this pack. I will take care of this kit and use it in my school for making my projects."

Each gift you give ensures that Donna can continue to make a difference in the lives of children like Nerilie through Elim HOPE Packs.

Nerilie (right) was grateful to receive her Elim HOPE Pack, even offering her own prayer for the Elim adult that prepared the pack.



New Discovery Centers Added: A task force met throughout the past year to determine the best way to broaden the services provided to students with special needs in Christian schools. Stay tuned for more details about the Achieve program!

Liaisons Multiply Elim's Impact

God has been working in Peru, Mexico, India, Nicaragua, Honduras, and the Dominican Republic long before Elim showed up. Through its liaison program, Elim seeks to provide support for local ministry leaders, collaborating with them to multiply programming for individuals with developmental disabilities within their own communities. Meet some of Elim's liaisons:

India – Elim Liaison: Geeta Mondol

Elim has proudly partnered with Geeta Mondol as she works with individuals with developmental disabilities in India. Geeta founded



Geeta Mondol with her family in India. As Elim's first liaison, her impact in India is growing exponentially.

Ashish School and leads training programs, teaching others how to work among people with disabilities in India. Ashish School has developed an excellent reputation for providing educational services

for both children and adults with autism. Additionally, the school recently started an adult vocational program. Geeta's vision and depth of expertise have led her to serve India by training its government-supported teachers. Geeta is multiplying what we've learned with her.

Nicaragua – Elim Liaison: Michelle Adams

Michelle Adams from Teseros De Dios school, located in Nicaragua, has made

repeat visits to Elim's campus in order to meet with Elim's staff and learn more about the programming Elim provides. Elim has been blessed to support her work as she is now empowering and training staff at



Michelle Adams has been instrumental in sharing special needs expertise in countries like Peru and Nicaragua.

Casa Ayuda, another ministry helping individuals with developmental disabilities in Latin America. Michelle has also worked with Elim and partner-ministry Food for the Hungry in Nicaragua and Peru, assisting them with assessments and training for their staff.

In Memoriam

John Kamp 1923–2011

John Kamp, the first Executive Director of Elim and the man often credited for bringing Elim from a church basement experiment to a nationally-respected and beloved special needs services organization, passed away on August 26 at the age of 88.



"John gave his life and soul to this organization. In many ways, John Kamp and Elim are synonymous," reflects Bill Lodewyk. Since 2000, Lodewyk has served as the fifth leader in Elim's history. Yet despite the years that separated their tenures at Elim, John and Bill kept in regular contact.

In honor of John's life and his dedication to covenant children with disabilities, Elim has set up a special memorial fund in John's memory. The fund provides endowment support to help pay the tuition of children whose families are part of a supporting reformed church. Elim has maintained a long-standing policy of charging tuition to reformed families that is similar to what they would pay if their child attended a typical Christian school. As President Lodewyk notes, "The actual cost of providing a Christ-centered education at Elim is three to four times higher than local Christian school tuition because of the extra support children with disabilities need to grow and to thrive.

"The John Kamp Fund will help make it possible for reformed families to continue to send their children with special needs to Elim. Providing the opportunity for reformed children with disabilities to receive a Christian education was at the core of John Kamp's calling."

Persons interested in supporting the fund can make a donation in John Kamp's memory. Please include a notation to that end with your gift, which will then be directed into the fund within the Elim Foundation.

Twin Brothers Grow By Leaps and Bounds



Twin brothers Kyle and Matthew love school. They are beginning to read, write, and speak. It wasn't too long ago that this was not the case for Kyle and Matthew.

Through Elim's ACE program, Kyle and Matthew have made extraordinary progress – and it's obvious they demonstrate a clear potential for more. Now eight years old, the twins have begun saying words to identify and request items, with the help of prompting and visuals. They are able to sit engaged during “circle time,” an activity jam-packed with colors, numbers, patterns, and emotions.

ACE provides Matthew and Kyle with structure and routine – the boys have responded extremely well and continue to flourish. Kyle's and Matthew's mother, Kim, is so thankful for the opportunities Elim's ACE program has given her children. “I wish that more children were able to get the opportunities that my boys get at Elim with ACE.”

The Calming Zone

Elim Christian School recently created “The Calming Zone.” This room is intended to assist students in regaining their composure by providing them with a room that is quiet, clutter-free, and relaxing. To create a soothing environment, Elim chose a small room with dim lighting, a calming paint color, and pleasing music, with furniture that is inviting and promotes relaxation.

The benefits of the Calming Zone are realized when students are able to go back to class and spend more time on task and self-regulate their internal sensory systems. The Calming Zone aids in giving them the tools to do so, and it has proven to be an asset to many students.

In order for Elim students to get the most benefit from a room such as this, the staff is trained to recognize the signs students exhibit when they are in need of down time, because the goal of the Calming Zone is to aid students prior to challenging behaviors occurring.

So far, the response to the new room has been very positive. Staff members are excited to see how students at Elim Christian School continue to benefit as a result of the Calming Zone.

RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM UPDATE:

Currently, Elim's residential program serves 13 children. These children benefit from the educational and therapeutic services of Elim Christian School during their daytime hours and then return to Kamp Cottage once the school day is complete.

Elim's residential program provides these students with both a loving, homelike atmosphere and the therapeutic and social opportunities that they need.

The residential program plans to close in 2015.

SCHOOL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- Total number of students currently served: 285
- number of ACE (autism) students: 65
- Crossroads transitions students: 42
- Number of staff members: 304



Elim Ministry Resources Statement 2010-2011

Operating Fund Details, 2010-2011

Undesignated Net Assets as of July 1, 2010 1,021,916

Revenues

Public Fees 16,375,366
 Private Fees 334,764
 Partnership 512,596
 Sales 295,978
 Gifts 2,004,050
 Other Support 124,743
 Elim Foundation 560,000
Total Revenue 20,207,497

Expenditures

Wages & Employees 15,777,425
 Occupancy 1,063,403
 Consumables 692,132
 Transportation 484,386
 Other 1,520,293
 Debt Service 590,000
Total Expenditures 20,127,638

Result from Operations 79,859
 Fixed Asset Activity 12,137
 Restricted Gift Activity (100,276)

Undesignated Net Assets as of June 30, 2011 1,013,636

Operating Fund Projections, 2011-2012

Revenues

Public Fees 17,437,900
 Private Fees 450,100
 Partnership 469,900
 Sales 279,700
 Gifts 1,919,800
 Other Support 73,300
 Elim Foundation 553,700
Total Revenue 21,184,400

Expenditures

Wages & Employees 16,885,100
 Occupancy 1,029,100
 Consumables 626,400
 Transportation 474,000
 Other 1,407,800
 Debt Service 762,000
Total Expenditures 21,184,400

Operating Expenditures by Program, 2010-2011

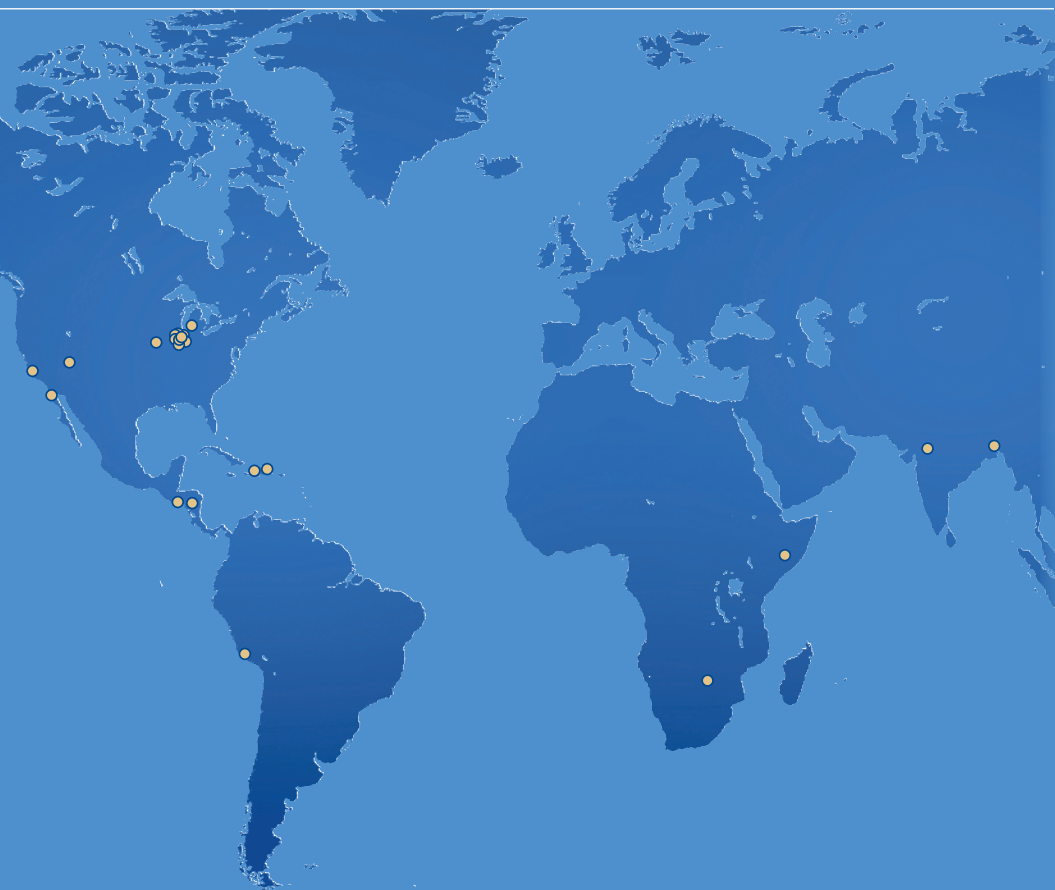
School 12,027,931
 Adult Services 3,121,933
 Residential Services 1,123,201
 Discovery Network 763,431
 Management & General Office 1,900,790
 Advancement 600,352
 Debt Service 590,000
Total 20,127,638

Operating Expenditure Projections by Program, 2011-2012

School 13,271,000
 Adult Services 3,010,200
 Residential Services 969,000
 Discovery Network 720,300
 Management & General Office 1,932,600
 Advancement 519,300
 Debt Service 762,000
Total 21,184,400



WHERE AND HOW ELIM IS HAVING AN IMPACT



United States of America

- 285 children with disabilities served in Chicago-land area through Elim Christian School
- 215 adults with disabilities served on two Elim campuses through Elim's Adult Services program
- 550 children served in 19 Christian Schools through Elim's Discovery Network Services
- 280 School Supply Kits packaged by Elim adults and distributed to needy children in Phoenix, Arizona, and East Chicago, Illinois
- 20,304 rice and bean packs packaged by Elim adults and distributed to needy children in Chicago through Lampstand Ministries
- 8 Supply Drives were hosted by area churches and schools to collect school supplies for Elim HOPE Packs

- 8 Together We Serve events held on Elim's campus, introducing 357 volunteers to Elim's ministry, building relationships, and producing over 10,000 school and food packs for distribution.

Philippines

- 2,000 school supply kits were assembled by Elim's adults and distributed to students in the Philippines through Food for the Hungry

Zimbabwe

- Chipso Katsande and Lucia Mambure from Zimbabwe came to Elim's campus in July, 2010 for training

Mexico

- 74,304 rice and bean packs packaged by Elim's adults and distributed to needy children in Mexico through Serve the People
- 1,080 school supply kits assembled by Elim's adults and provided to students in Mexico

Guatemala

- 8,860 school supply kits distributed to needy children in Guatemala through GAIN and Food for the Hungry

Honduras

- Michele Adams of Teseros de Dios visited Elim for training in January, 2011

Bangladesh

- 300 school supply kits distributed to children in Bangladesh through Food for the Hungry

Kenya

- 21,200 school supply kits distributed to children in Kenya through Food for the Hungry

Peru

- 4,500 school supply kits packaged by Elim's adults and provided to children in Peru
- Elim Outreach team traveled to Peru to deliver Elim HOPE Packs in partnership with Food for the Hungry in October, 2010

Haiti

- 10,000 school supply kits assembled by Elim's adults and distributed to Haitian children through Food for the Hungry
- 34,560 rice and bean packs were put together by Elim's adults and given to hungry families in Haiti through Haitian Support Ministries

Dominican Republic

- 10,800 school supply kits were packaged by Elim's adults and distributed to children in the Dominican Republic through Food for the Hungry

India

- Geeta Mondol from Ashish School in India visited Elim for training and support in April, 2010

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