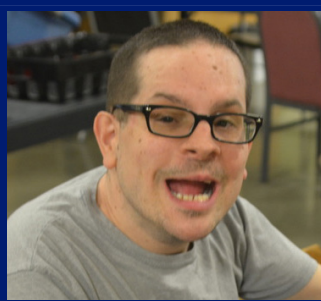


Elim 
We are thriving.



2021-2022 Impact Report

WHO IS ELIM?



ELIM CHRISTIAN SERVICES EQUIPS PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES TO PURSUE THEIR GOD-GIVEN POTENTIAL.

MISSION Elim equips people with disabilities to pursue their God-given potential by offering person-centered services and partnering with their communities.

VISION People with disabilities thriving in their communities.

CORE VALUES

- We are Christ-centered.
- We all have value and purpose.
- We are a learning and sharing community.



WE ARE THRIVING.



The theme of this year's Impact Report is "We are Thriving."

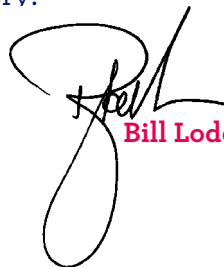
This is entirely appropriate given that Elim's vision is *people with disabilities thriving in their community*. In this context we understand thriving to be "belonging and making a transformative contribution to community."

In that light, thriving is not fundamentally about attainment despite challenge. For us at Elim, thriving is about the experience of linking arms with others in manifesting the transformative power of God. Stated another way, thriving at Elim happens when the life experience of the students and participants at Elim contribute to and benefit from the stories of their community.

As you will see, this Impact Report is full of stories of thriving – of people linking arms to manifest the transformative power of God in community. The ways that our staff members invest themselves so selflessly in this vision is incredible. I know you will be inspired by Tony, Laurie, Kyle, and Matthew, and how God uses our staff – and your partnership – to make the vision of thriving in community possible.

This Impact Report is also a story of Elim thriving. Elim thrives when you link arms with Elim to promote sustainability. As you can see, Elim's finances tell a story of God's faithful provision. Once again, Elim finished its fiscal year favorable to budget, and that is thanks in no small part to an amazing group of supporters that collectively generated \$---in support for Elim. This included a new bridge across Tinley Creek and a Pursue Possibilities event that collectively generated over two million dollars in support for Elim!

As you soak in the significance of the 2021-2022 Impact Report, I invite you to be inspired by how God makes thriving (Eph. 3:20) happen at Elim. How he invites you, Elim staff, students and participants, and the community at large to link arms to make thriving happen – for His Glory!



Bill Lodewyk | President

ELIM CHRISTIAN SERVICES

AUGUST:

Nearly 9,000 HOPE Packs were assembled by Elim adults and distributed to local children in need.

OCTOBER:

The Learning team launched a new Leadership Development program for Elim's teachers and therapists.



JULY:

Community-based adult participants were welcomed back to campus after 16 months of Covid, serving at 100% capacity.

SEPTEMBER:

We celebrated a record-breaking 25th anniversary Dutch Festival, including the dedication of the new covered bridge.

A YEAR IN REVIEW: 2021-2022

APRIL:

Elim likes to reward their staff! We celebrated National Pretzel Day with fresh pretzels. Yum!



JUNE:

Elim held a cruise night to raise awareness for HOPE Packs!



MARCH:

Elim's executive team participated in Clifton Strengths coaching and team building.

MAY:

Annual 5K was held in person after 2 years of being virtual. Over 700 people registered, making it the largest yet.

All staff came together for the first annual Learning Day, learning to build relationships in the workplace.





CONNECT



Tony's guardians have known him since he was 17, exactly the time he started at Elim. Tony was in foster care at the time, and his guardians, David and Muriel, would take him on holidays, birthday outings, and even family vacations. "Tony just adopted us as his own family right away!"

Today, Tony is in Elim's Adult Services program. His guardians have been so pleased with the services he receives here. "Elim has helped Tony a lot in his growth and his self-confidence and self-esteem."

At Elim, Tony has blossomed into a friendly and compassionate person. He loves socializing with his friends and working on the assembly line. He prays for sick friends and gives them handmade gifts. He is always there to help someone out.

Tony has even taken his skill at handmade gifts and become an entrepreneur, selling his handiwork. David and Muriel say, "He's always happy and just a great guy to be around, and a lot of it is thanks to the background that he has here at Elim."

ENGAGE

My twin brothers, Kyle and Matthew, were born at the age of three. At the time, our family was small, and Kyle and Matthew attended church with us.

But 12 years ago, bringing Kyle and Matthew to Elim was the best decision our family could make. They received so much support throughout their lives, and it was a family to us.

At nine years old, Elim provided Tony with a communicative augmentative communication device. He used the TouchChat program. This allowed him to communicate verbally through the device, something that other devices didn't include.

After using it for a year, Matthew was able to speak on his own! He no longer needs the device for voice for the first time in years. It was just what it would sound like – and it was just an annoying little brother! The fact that he was just something that I had never experienced.

My family and I know that Kyle and Matthew are. They have grown to be such gentlemen. They are confident that with the skills they have, they will be able to go on to a work program.

-Kyle & Matthew's sister





new, were diagnosed with autism
our family didn't know about Elim,
district school.

and Matthew to Elim was probably
d have made. We have received
se years, and Elim has been like

the boys with a special alterna-
on device – an iPad which includ-
program allowed them to speak
ething that their previous

was able to become fully verbal
o rely on his device. Hearing his
as amazing. I always imagined
was great. He was just my
that he was able to come this far
ver imagined.

and Matthew's futures are bright.
lemen and they're so smart. We
they've learned at Elim, they will
m. Elim has made that possible!



THRIVE



Laurie remembers her parents sending her to school many years ago. She said they didn't have the means to support her and thought school would be the best thing for her to do. "It was kind of scary for me at first," Laurie said. "I didn't think I would like it. I didn't think I would fit in. My mama sat me down and said, 'Relax, it's going to be okay.'"

That is when she came to Elim. And Laurie's mom was right after all – everything was okay! During her years in the school program and in the Adult Services day program, Laurie learned many different things and made many lasting friendships.

One of those things is learning different skills and jobs through Elim's work program. Laurie said, "I liked counting cardboard because it was the easiest job." Now she is looking for employment in a restaurant or in dog grooming, because she loves animals.

Throughout her years at Elim, Laurie developed and grew in her faith. Laurie knows that God is her Savior and that he is guiding her through every day. She believes that God has a plan for her life now and in the years to come.

“I think **ELIM IS A GOOD PLACE** to support people with disabilities. They help you know that **YOU DO HAVE THE ABILITY** to go out in the world and work and do the things you want to do without criticism and without judgment. I just think that Elim is something good for a person with a disability.”

~ Joe (an adult participant)

“I love that I am given the opportunity to **SEE OUR STUDENTS FOR WHO THEY ARE** and not just what the rest of the world sees when they look at them.”

~ Jamie (an Elim para professional)

WE ARE THRIVING.



“**WHAT I LOVE ABOUT ELIM** is the environment. My teachers and the staff are helpful. If I wasn't here at Elim, I wouldn't be able to be working in the executive offices or have the skills to do that. **IT MAKES ME FEEL VERY HAPPY.**”

~ Tessa (an Elim student)

“When you have a child with special needs, life is often confusing, chaotic, and, quite frankly, crazy. **ELIM IS OUR CONSTANT** and for that we will be forever grateful!”

~ Sandy (an Elim mom)



200+

adults served on
Elim's Crestwood
and Orland Park
campuses

142,443

HOPE Packs sent to
provide food, school
supplies, and messages
of HOPE – locally and
around the world

64

school districts that
send students to Elim
to receive essential
services

100%

of Elim's students
and adults have
a personalized
growth plan

90%

of our adults positively
impact neighboring
communities through
work and volunteer
opportunities

208

children served
on Elim's campus

100%

of Elim's students and
adults rely on the year-round,
life-changing programming
you help provide!

101

members in the Elim
Legacy Sustainers Society
who are including Elim in
their estate plans

To find a list of all
gifts made in honor
or memoriam, visit:

elimcs.org/AnnualReport

Thank you for your
generosity in support
of our mission!



CONNECT. ENGAGE.



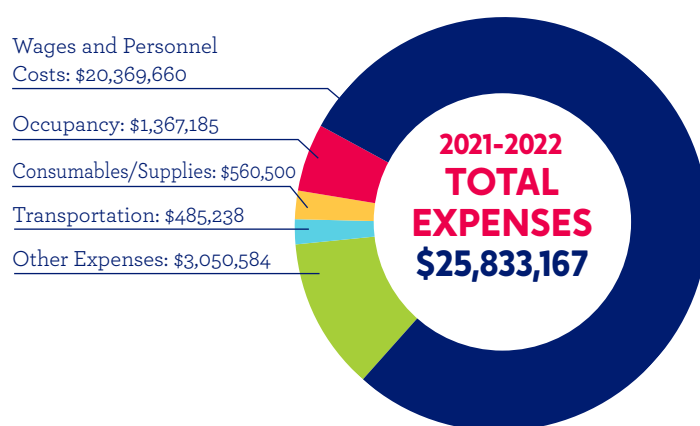
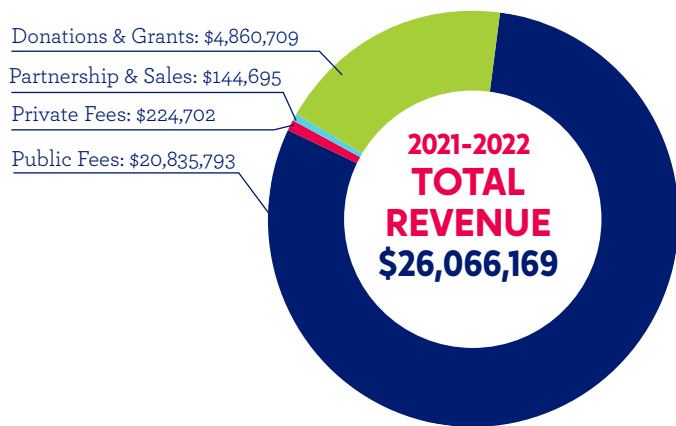
THRIVE.

WE ARE **Elim**

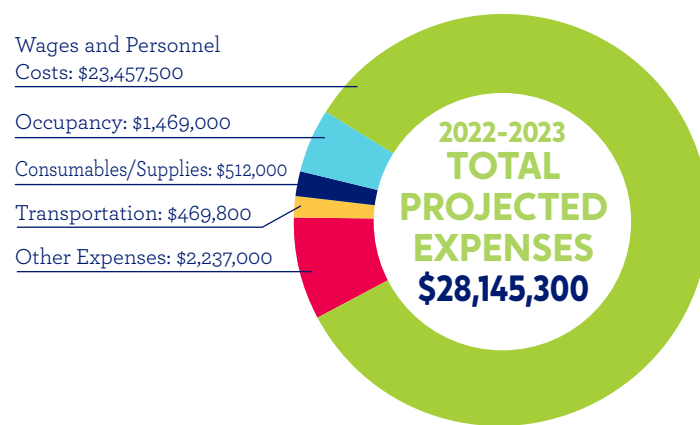
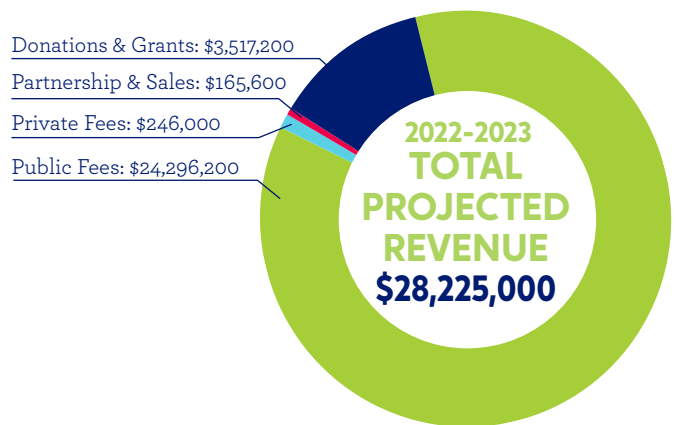


Thank you for your partnership in Elim's mission!
Because of you, children and adults with disabilities
at Elim, in your community, and worldwide are being
equipped to reach their full potential. Here are other
ways to get involved in this life-changing work:

OUR FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2021-2022



OUR FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS 2022-2023



VOLUNTEER

Join us for a one-day event or for a weekly opportunity and experience Elim and its mission in a whole new way! Learn more at www.elimcs.org/volunteer.



GET YOUR CHURCH, BUSINESS, AND SCHOOL INVOLVED

Get involved in a HOPE Packs campaign or explore other opportunities at www.elimcs.org/get-involved.



BECOME AN ELIM LEGACY SUSTAINER

Elim Legacy Sustainers are individuals that have decided to leave a legacy at Elim by giving a planned gift or by naming Elim Christian Services as a beneficiary in their will. If you would like to become an Elim Legacy Sustainer, please contact Dan Vander Plaats (708-293-6518) or you can contact Elim's partner agency, the Barnabas Foundation (toll free at 888-448-3040). The Barnabas Foundation can help you plan your gifts for maximum impact.



WE ARE THRIVING...

TOGETHER.



Your partnership is crucial to Elim's mission. Thank you for your kindness and generosity! Please give today at elimcs.org/donate

Elim

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