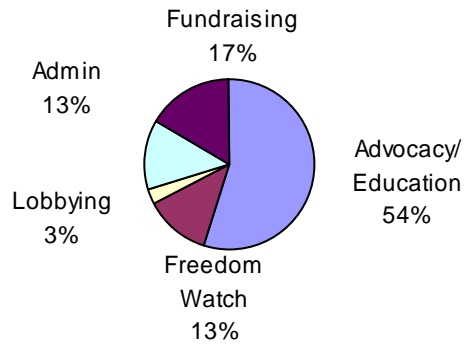
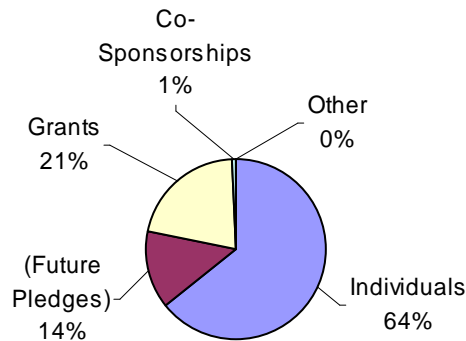


2005 Expenses



2005 Income



Expenses	
Advocacy/Education	63,979.79
Freedom Watch	15,113.31
Lobbying	3,131.72
Admin	15,690.91
Fundraising	19,699.38
Total Expenses	117,615.11

Income	
Individuals	91,294.27
Future Pledges	19,912.35
Grants	29,936.58
Co-Sponsorships	825.00
Other	20.00
Total Income	141,988.20

*Future pledges are pledges from individuals for gifts in future years.

Mission

Citizens Project spotlights issues in the Pikes Peak region and mobilizes people to strengthen the traditional values of our nation: equal rights, individual freedoms, separation of church and state, civic engagement, and respect for diversity.

Vision

We envision a community embracing a vibrant democracy in the Pikes Peak region where equal rights are protected, individual freedoms are secure, differences are respected, and people fully participate in civic and community life.

"Citizens Project gives the public an opportunity to report injustice, to be listened to, and then to be part of the solution"

-Sharon Berthrong,
Board Member and CP supporter

2005 Board of Directors

Greg Varner, Chair
 Margi Duncombe, Treasurer
 Jerome Carter ~ David Dempsey
 Tim Dorpinghaus ~ Susan Edmondson
 Burl Kreps ~ Ann K MacLaughlin
 Mary Ellen McNally ~ Deborah Muehleisen
 Cynthia Nimerichter ~ Radha Pyati
 Dorelle Raab-Peters ~ Kimberley Sherwood
 Dee Vazquez



2005 Year End Report

Promoting

*Equality,
Democracy,
Freedom, and
Diversity*

in the Pikes Peak
Region



P.O. Box 2085
 Colorado Springs, CO 80901
 Phone: 719-520-9899
 Fax: 719-520-0118
www.citizensproject.org

Fighting for Equal Rights & Tolerance in the Pikes Peak Region

Citizens Project (CP) was founded in 1993 to address threats to pluralism and religious freedom in local schools. We have expanded on this work through mobilizing activists and building coalitions that promote tolerance, civil rights, religious freedom, diversity and civic engagement in our region. Citizens Project has gained national recognition for its work.

Creating Community & Celebrating Diversity

Citizens Project is a community of people from all different ethnic, religious, political and cultural backgrounds. We recognize how embracing differences strengthens democracy and freedom, allowing all people to fully participate in civic and community life. Over 700 individuals and families make our work possible by contributing to Citizens Project each year.

Educating the Public

Citizens Project educates the public through our newsletter *Freedom Watch* that is published six times per year and reaches 100,000 readers of the *Independent* weekly newspaper. We also hold public forums and discussions where people can learn about and discuss issues together. We use newspaper and radio to publicize events and raise awareness about the need for protecting rights and freedoms.

Education...Organizing...Advocacy

Citizens Project mobilizes residents to make a difference on issues related our mission. Recent issue work includes:

✓ **Election Reform**—In response to CP's Activist Alert about a legislative vote on election reform, CP Activist Network members sent letters to State Senator Ed Jones, who was undecided. He became the swing vote in favor of moving this bill out of committee. The bill passed into law and it expands voter rights, requires voter-verified paper records, increases inspection of voting machines, and requires random audits for accountability.

✓ **Diversity in Public Schools**— CP supported students at Palmer High School—and throughout District 11—in their efforts to gain full recognition of a diversity of clubs, including their Gay-Straight Alliance Club. CP was the primary organizer of a demonstration that drew nearly 1000 people to support tolerance at Palmer High School. We also opposed an effort by school board members to make a central goal of the school district, "...the definition, defense maintenance and nourishment of heterosexual, two-parent families..." because it excluded many diverse families.

✓ **Opposing Prayer in Public Meetings** — CP supports religious freedom so that no sectarian religious expression is imposed within public institutions. In 2005, CP opposed a D-11 School Board proposal to establish an invocation at board meetings.

✓ **Supporting Affirmative Action** — CP mobilized supporters to contact their state legislators to preserve this important institution that has effectively countered the impacts of racism in our society.

Organizing and Advocacy

Citizens Project monitors the city council, county commission, school districts and the state legislature, and keeps supporters informed about pending policy decisions.

We mobilize people through our email Activist Network, which grew from 450 to over 625 members in 2005. Network members receive email alerts about pressing issues along with information and talking points about decisions being made by public officials. They get contact information for their representatives and an easy way to send messages to their elected officials.

Voter Education

✓ **Candidate Surveys**—A signature CP publication reaching 100,000 readers of the *Independent* newspaper. In 2005, we published Candidate Surveys for the City Council elections in the spring and for the school board in the fall.

✓ **Candidate Forums**—CP held three public candidate forums in 2005; one for the City Council election in March and two for School Board races in November. Over 35 local organizations co-sponsored.

✓ **Public Record**—In collaboration with Voters Network we published our second edition of this guide to city, county and state elected officials, with voting records, funded by a grant from the Independence Community Fund.