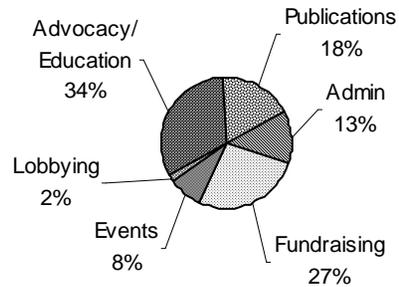
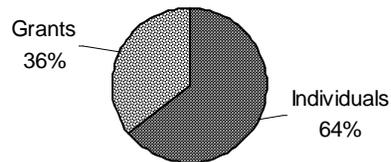


2004 Expenses



2004 Income



2004 Income and Expenses

Income	
Individuals	86,980
Grants	48,191
Total Income	\$135,171
Expenses	
Advocacy/Education	38,929.34
Publications	21,771.71
Admin	15,051.00
Fundraising	32,507.00
Events	9,408.15
Lobbying	2,085.80
Total Expenses	\$119,753

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 runs
on a no-frills, shoestring budget.
We do a lot with a little"*

-Sharon Berthrong, Board Member 1998-2004

2004 Board of Directors

Kimberley Sherwood, Chair
 Margi Duncombe, Treasurer
 Sharon Berthrong ~ Paul Durham
 Susan Edmondson ~ Ann K MacLaughlin
 Mary Ellen McNally ~ Deborah Muehleisen
 Cynthia Nimerichter ~ Radha Pyati
 Richard Van Scotter ~ Greg Varner
 Denise Wisdom-Thomas



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



2004 Annual Report

Promoting

*Equality,
Democracy,
Religious
Freedom, and
Diversity*

in the Pikes Peak
Region

Citizens Project is a member agency of



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, equal rights, religious freedom and diversity in our region. Citizens Project has gained national recognition for our work.

Creating Community & Celebrating Diversity

Citizens Project is a community of people from all different ethnic, religious, political and cultural backgrounds. We recognize that embracing differences strengthens democracy and freedom, allowing all people to fully participate in civic and community life. Over 700 individuals contribute to Citizens Project, making our work possible.

Support from the Community

Citizens Project raises the majority of its budget from individuals in the community and from around the country. In 2004 Citizens Project strengthened its organizational infrastructure by placing a new emphasis on improving fundraising efforts. This investment resulted in a more than 200% increase in the number of new donors, a 20% increase in the average donation amount, and for the first time ever raising over \$80,000 from individuals in a calendar year. This includes donations made by our regular donors who give on a monthly, quarterly, and semi-annual basis, as well as those who give through donor advised funds at foundations.

2004 Accomplishments

✓ *Diversity in Public Schools*— CP successfully mobilized supporters to defeat two exclusionary proposals by the District 11 School Board. One proposal would have denied recognition to diverse student clubs, including Gay-Straight Alliances. Our coalition of students, teachers, parents and citizens forced the board to use a transparent process that succeeded in exposing the narrow-mindedness of this proposal. The other would have established as a central goal of the school district, "...the definition, defense maintenance and nourishment of heterosexual, two-parent families..." Over 85 CP supporters sent letters to school board members and the resolution was dropped.

✓ *Domestic Partner Health Benefits*—We continued our work from 2003 to urge the City Council to adopt an employee health benefit policy that would include partners of gay and lesbian city employees. Although we lost the January 2004 vote on a compromise plan, we succeeded in convincing three more city council members to support extending family health benefits who had previously voted against. We also mobilized hundreds of activists to contact their council members in support of the benefits plan.

✓ *Freedom Watch* —Published five issues of our flagship publication containing news and opinion, and distributed it to 100,000 readers.

✓ *Activist Network*—Our email activist network grew from 230 to over 450 active subscribers who received email alerts urging them to contact elected leaders on issues addressing school vouchers, GLBT rights, affirmative action, school club policy, sex education and more. We also began offering easy on-line activism that lets members edit and send letters directly from the web.

✓ *Public Record*—In collaboration with Voters Network, CP published this guide to city, county and state elected officials that included voting records and contact information. It was funded by a grant from the Independence Community Fund, and a third edition is planned for 2005.

✓ *Candidate Survey*—A signature CP publication reaching 100,000 readers of the *Independent* newspaper, the Candidate Survey listed candidates for the general election and their positions on issues.

✓ *Candidate Forums*—We held two public candidate forums where candidates for the State House of Representatives, County Commission and State Board of Education spoke and answered questions about their policy positions. The forums were cosponsored by a number of local organizations including: NAACP, Pikes Peak Gay and Lesbian Community Center, the Urban League, Voters Network, Planned Parenthood Action Fund, Colorado Black Women for Political Action, and the ACLU.

✓ *Get Out the Vote*—CP sent Voter Mobilization Kits to over 1,000 supporters. Kits included an absentee ballot application, information on candidate forums and the candidate survey, and information on paper ballots to ensure votes would count.