### Soroptimist International of Bidwell Rancho- Chico

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## Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc.®

1709 Spruce Street Philadelphia, PA 19103-6103 USA Soroptimist.org | LiveYourDream.org

# Soroptimist®

Investing in Dreams



When women help other women, amazing things happen! Our clubs come together to make a difference for women and girls worldwide. Interested in more information on how to get involved?

Visit Soroptimist.org or contact: Soroptimist International of Bidwell Rancho-Chico ibidwellrancho@soroptimist.net / www.sibidwellrancho.org



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Soroptimist International of the Americas,  $Inc.\mathbb{R}$ is a 501(c)(3) global volunteer organization that relies on charitable contributions to support its programs.

The women and girls featured in this brochure are recipients of Soroptimist Dream Programs. To read their stories visit Soroptimist.org or LiveYourDream.org



# Helping Women & Girls to Live Their Dreams

Providing women and girls with access to education is the most effective way to help them reach their full potential and live their dreams. When women and girls are educated, they have opportunity, choice and power to make healthy decisions for themselves and their families.

*Our Dream Programs are primarily delivered locally by our clubs and members in 21 countries and territories. They provide the muscle and on-the-ground work that make our programs come alive.* 

#### Soroptimist Live Your Dream: Education and

**Training Awards for Women** annually awards about \$2.5 million in education grants to about 1,500 women who have overcome enormous personal obstacles including poverty, sex trafficking and domestic violence. Recipients may use the cash grants to offset any costs associated with their efforts to attain additional education or training. Award recipients go on to enjoy improved employment prospects, greater earning potential, higher selfesteem, and serve as positive role models for their children.

#### Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls®

targets girls who face steep challenges like poverty and unstable home lives. It provides girls with tools to make educated choices and plans for their futures, and gives them hope and confidence. By reaching girls while they are still young, we not only can help them stay healthy and safe in the short term, but we can reduce the number of women in crisis in the future. To date, *Dream It, Be It* has helped put more than 35,000 girls on a positive path.





Soroptimist also powers LiveYourDream.org—an online community offering offline volunteer opportunities benefiting women and girls. LiveYourDream.org inspires people from all walks of life to live their dreams, while helping less fortunate women and girls to live theirs. This is accomplished through hands-on volunteer opportunities, awareness and advocacy efforts, and/or financial support.

# Soroptimist in Our Community

Soroptimists work together to invest in women and girls near and far by giving them resources to achieve economic empowerment. Here in Chico, CA some of our work includes:

We grant at least one \$1,000 *Soroptimist Live Your Dream Award* each year. Our most recent recipient Leslie is a Camp fire survivor and has relocated to Montana. She is currently working as a detention officer in a jail at the Richland County Sheriff's office. Leslie is a single mother of four children and is also pursuing her EMT license!



For the past five years, we have produced a *Soroptimist Dream It, Be It* event where girls from underserved communities meet with mentors to gain practical knowledge of how to accomplish their life and employment goals. We are proud of our work to help put these deserving girls on a positive path so that their dreams may become reality.



We also work on raising awareness about Anti Trafficking. We have provided backpacks for the local hospital to give to trafficking victims and have set up an informational booth at our local farmers market to inform the public about Anti Trafficking.



Visit <u>www.sibidwellrancho.org</u> OR <u>https://www.facebook.com/sibidwellrancho</u> to learn more!