

Soroptimist International



SOROPTIMIST®

Investing in Dreams

a global voice
for women

Soroptimist International



Soroptimist International

- ▶ *Soroptimist International is a global volunteer movement working together to transform the lives of women and girls. Our network of over 80,000 club members in 127 countries and territories works at a local, national and international level to educate, empower and enable opportunities for women and girls.*

History

- ▶ Stuart Morrow called on Adelaide Goddard, co-owner Parker–Goddard Secretarial School



- ▶ Chartered Oct 10, 1921, with 80 women representing 80 businesses and professions

Soropti-what??

- ▶ “Soroptimist” = coined word from the latin “soror”, meaning sister, and “optimus”, meaning the best. Since, it’s come to mean “the best for women.”



Soroptimist at the International Level

- ▶ **Mission** = Soroptimists inspire action and create opportunities to transform the lives of women and girls through a global network of members and international partnerships.
 - ▶ **Values** =
 - Human rights for all
 - Global peace and international goodwill
 - Advancing women's potential
 - Integrity and democratic decision making
 - Volunteering, diversity and friendship
- 

Soroptimist at the International Level

- ▶ "I joined SI Karachi Central in 2005. Through Soroptimism I discovered myself! And that is the amazing truth. I came to know what I am passionate about and what gives me utter happiness. Once I found that out there was no stopping me. I have since then actively perused program action at every level."
-----Talat Yasmeen, SI Karachi, Pakistan

Soroptimist at the International Level

Standing up for women and girls

- ▶ 720 Soroptimist projects targeted communities or countries to change the social and political environment for the betterment of women.



260 of these projects addressed this year's focus, violence against women and girls. Countless individuals heard the messages

Soroptimist at the International Level

Enough is Enough

- ▶ SI's campaign Enough is Enough: End Violence Against Women reached over 16,000 individuals through social media channels.
- ▶ Clubs in 15 countries in a Federation took action on International Women's Day



Soroptimist at the International Level

Educate, Empower, Enable

- ▶ In 2012, Soroptimists reported on 3,727 projects to promote women and girls' participation in education and leadership. Nearly 110,000 women and girls were educated, empowered and enabled.
- ▶ SI evidence shows that small scale projects, together, can have huge scale impact improving the lives of women and girls.



Soroptimist International of the Americas

- ▶ One of four federations – Americas and Pacific Rim countries
- ▶ 34,000 members in 1300 clubs
- ▶ *Improving the lives of women and girls, in our communities and around the world.*

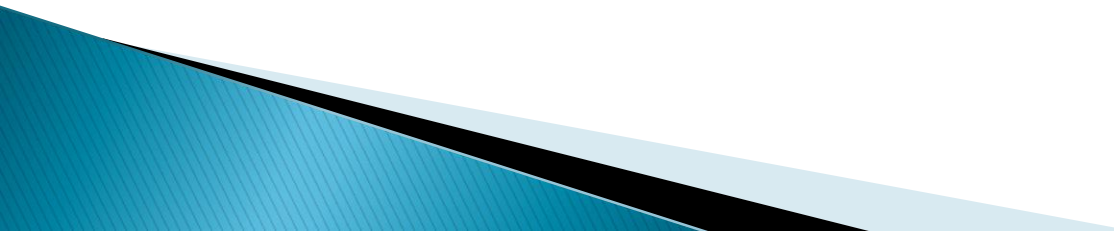


Soroptimist International of the Americas

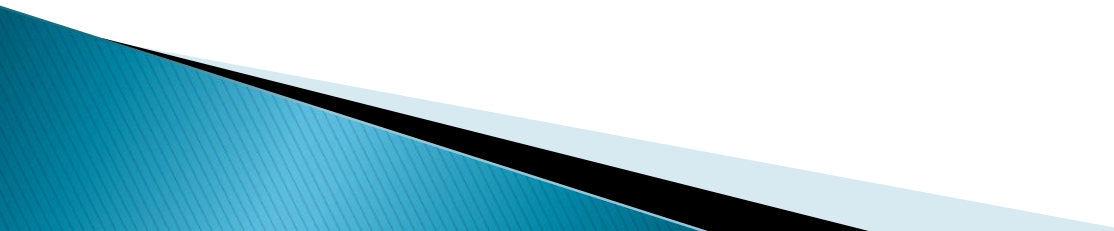
- ▶ Signature project = Women's Opportunity Award, assists women who provide the primary source of financial support for their families by giving them the resources they need to improve their education, skills, and employment prospects.



Soroptimist International of the Americas

- ▶ Women's Opportunity Awards:
 - ▶ Each year, more than \$1.5 million is disbursed through cash awards at various levels of the organization.
 - ▶ Many recipients have overcome enormous obstacles including poverty, domestic violence, and drug and alcohol abuse.
 - ▶ The awards may be used to offset any costs associated with efforts to attain higher education, such as books, childcare and transportation.
- 

Sierra Nevada Region

- ▶ 1 900 members in 60 clubs
 - ▶ Most of Northern California and all of Nevada
 - ▶ Recent Region Projects
 - Poco's Panties
 - Kay's Cookers
 - My Sister's House
- 

Soroptimist International of

- ▶ Your projects
- ▶ Your scholarships
- ▶ Your activities
- ▶ Your accomplishments
- ▶ (with pictures)

Learning, having fun, helping others



Soroptimist International of

- ▶ Soroptimist International of -----
meets -----
- ▶ (Insert picture of your club members here)