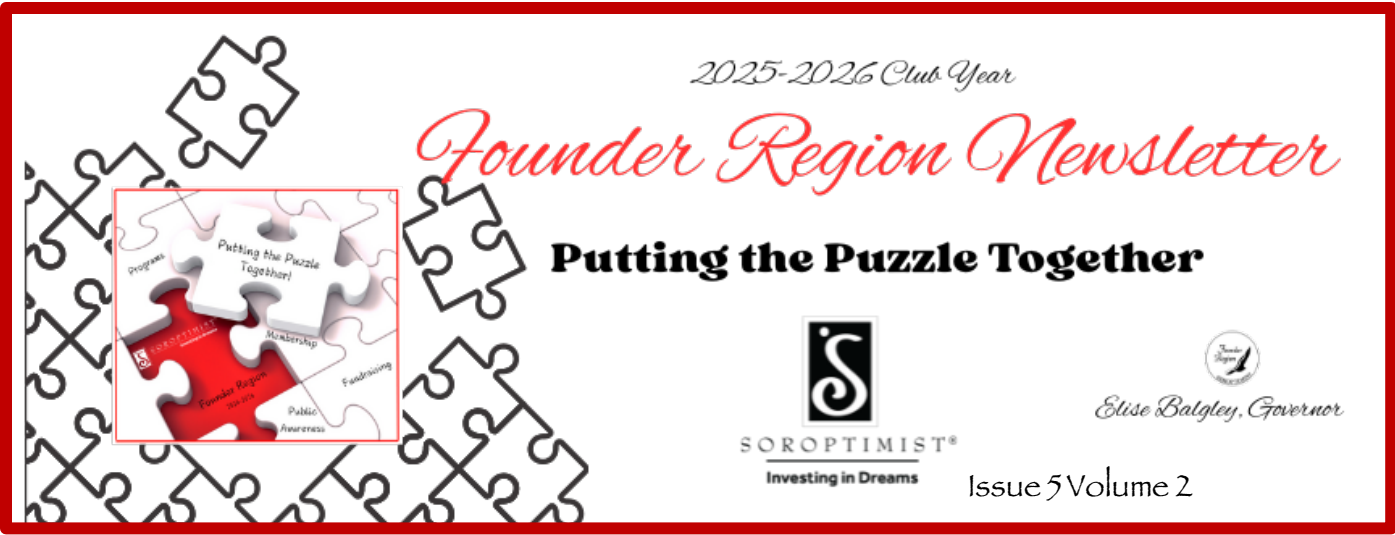




November Newsletter/Mailing

Dear Founder Region Members:

Thank you to everyone who attended the 2025 District Meetings. Each of those meetings was well attended with lots of opportunities to connect with long-time friends and make new ones. I hope each of the attendees found the time spent rewarding. I certainly did. Special thanks to the host clubs and of course to our wonderful District Directors. They all did a fantastic job.

Good news for today is that Founder Region’s participation in Big Goal Accelerator Projects was wonderful. Let’s keep that up. Be sure to report your projects to SIA so your efforts count. There will, of course, be certificates from Founder Region for clubs completing one or more qualifying projects.

Let’s be sure to consider Dream It, Be It projects as well. Reach out if you need assistance in getting that started or reach out to a neighboring club and do something together.

Be sure to contact your district Live Your Dream Representative or Region Live Your Dream Chair Maida Herbst if you need Live Your Dream applications to share or have them available to share. The goal is to help women to live their dreams through our Live Your Dream Awards. Let’s once again achieve 100% participation from all of our Founder Region clubs and increase the number of awards given throughout the region. We can do this.

This newsletter replaces what used to be a “November Mailing” as our method of communicating updates to clubs and members. The newsletter has, among other things, updates from each our Region Pillar chairs, Fellowship President Vicki, a link to the nominating forms for our 2026-2028 Founder Region and Founder Region Fellowship Boards (due December 1), and “Save the Dates” for Founder Region Conference, Leadership Training, and next year’s District Meetings.

A very Happy Thanksgiving to each of you from your Founder Region Board. Enjoy time with your friends and family. Hope to see you all soon.

Governor Elise

District Meeting Survey!

If you were able to attend a District Meeting last month, please fill out our survey and let us know your thoughts. This will help future District Meetings be even better.
[Click Here](#)

Calendar of Upcoming Events

- November 15 – LYD online system closes.
- December 1 – Nominations due for Region Board and Fellowship Board; SIA Grant applications open.
- January 1 – Mandatory convention fee invoice for \$825.00 will be sent to clubs.
- January 2 – Relief assistance for convention fee opens. [Relief assistance](#)
- January 15 – **Early** LYD club winners due to LYD Representatives for opportunity drawing ticket.
- February 1 – LYD and Violet Richardson Award club winners due to District Representatives.
- March 1 – Mandatory convention fee due. “S” Club Outstanding Senior Award application due. Deadline for SIA Grant applications
- March 10 – Call to conference
- March 24 – Call to Caucus (virtual)
- April 1 – Clubs that have not paid the convention fee by this date will be notified they are at risk of losing their charter.
- May 1–3 – Region Conference, San Ramon Marriott
- June 6 – Leadership Training, Districts I & II
- June 12 – Mandatory new Founder Region Board training
- June 13 – Leadership Training, Districts III & IV
- June 14 – 68th Memorial Grove celebration
- June 26 – Leadership Training, District V (Zoom), 6 p.m. HST / June 27 – 2 p.m. ChST

Leadership Training

District I & II
Saturday, June 6 9 am to noon
Concord
District III & IV
Saturday, June 13
1:30 pm to 4:30 pm - Eureka
District V via Zoom - Friday, June 26, 6 pm (HST).
Saturday, June 27, 2 pm (ChST)
District V Follow up in person
Sunday Oct. 18



Fundraising-Joy Swank, Chair

I am thankful for all you do for our fabulous Soroptimist organization.

Want to do more?

1. Join the [Laurel Society](#), contribute a \$1,000.00 or make monthly payments to reach that lofty amount. Your money goes to supporting our Dream Programs.
2. Become a [Stargazer](#), monthly payments as low as \$10.00 if multiplied by over a thousand members in Founder Region and we are talking serious money to help our mission.
3. [Club Giving](#) of 10% is a tremendous help to our global Dream Programs.
4. Finally, I encourage everyone to give to our [Fellowship](#) program. Helping brilliant women complete their doctoral degree is a win-win for our world.

Whatever you can do helps, thank you, have a lovely Thanksgiving.

Warmest regards, Joy Swank

Membership- Angie Haramoto, Chair

The "Power of 8" Membership Retention Award was established in 2014 and recognizes clubs that have retained at least 90% of their membership from the end of one fiscal year to the beginning of the next.

The award supports our strategic plan to have clubs retain 90% of their membership each year.

Congratulations to the following clubs who received the Power of 8 award at the District Meetings:

District I-SI/24/680 (Walnut Creek), SI/Benicia, SI/The East Bay, SI/El Cerrito, SI/Martinez, SI/Oakland-The Founder Club, SI/Richmond, SI/The Tri-Valley

District II-SI/American Canyon 2018, SI/Antioch, SI/Central Solano County, SI/The Delta, SI/Dixon, SI/Rio Vista, SI/Vacaville, SI/Vacaville Twilight, SI/Vallejo

District III- SI/Clear Lake, SI/Mendocino-Sonoma Coast, SI/Napa, SI/Oakmont Wine Country, SI/St. Helena, SI/St. Helena Sunrise, SI/Santa Rosa, SI/Sonoma Valley

District IV- SI/Arcata, SI/Eel River Valley, SI/Noyo Sunrise, SI/Ukiah, SI/Willits

District V- SI/Central Oahu, SI/Honolulu, SI/The Marianas, SI/Maui, SI/Northern Mariana Islands and SI/Waikiki Foundation Inc.

Programs- Jackie DeVries, Chair

LYD- The online system is now closed. Please contact your LYD Rep. if you need more applications. Remember the early deadline of January 15 to be entered into a drawing!

VIOLET RICHARDSON AWARD

Your **District Representatives** need your **club finalists by February 1st** so district-level judging can take place. Each district will have one winner, and the young woman will receive **\$500 at Conference**. Let's help celebrate young women making a difference! ***VioletRichardson Reps:** District I- Carol Dippel, District II-Jan Schults, District III- Laurie Gallian, District IV-Dyann O'Brien, and District V- Rene Tokanaga*

*The final list for clubs submitting **BGAP** projects for 2024-2025 has 26 Founder Region Clubs participating. Please submit Your BGAP prior to April 1 to be recognized at conference. Otherwise, be sure and submit by June 30. **See the Big Goal Flyer attached to this newsletter for list of clubs. Think of the projects your club does every year- they can probably become a Big Goal Project.** Please if you have any questions ask your District Director or email me and we can see if the project will qualify. The clubs in Founder Region do wonderful work and we want others to learn about our projects that are empowering women and girls.*

Public Awareness- Sue Pretzer, Chair

Join an International Movement: 16 Days of Activism

The 16 Days of Activism to Eliminate Violence Against Women(EVAW), an annual international campaign calling for the elimination of violence against women and girls, will run from November 25 to December 10. [Learn more.](#)

The 2025 campaign will focus on ending online violence against women and girls by promoting key strategies for prevention including raising awareness of how online abuse happens, sharing tools for digital safety and support, and encouraging actions that help create safer, more respectful online spaces.

When you visit the page you will see graphics to use each day and suggested copy. I encourage all of our clubs to post on Social Media beginning on November 25.

Save
The
Date

Founder Region 50th
Conference
May 1, 2, & 3
San Ramon Marriott

Host Clubs for
2026 Conference

SI/Eel River Valley
SI/Humboldt Bay
SI/Noyo Sunrise
SI/The Redwoods

Date Reminders

The Call to Conference will be sent to clubs in the second week of March. Please carefully check all deadlines.

Remember to turn your CLUB GIVING in early in March so that you can be recognized at conference.

Submit all Big Goal Accelerator projects by March 31 to receive recognition at the conference.

Submit your report to SIA on your DI/BI projects by March 31st to be acknowledged at conference.

Be sure you are submitting new members and notifying Treasurer Holly. See Call to Conference for date deadlines for Julia "Bess" Combs award.

This year we will once again have Pillar Posters. See the flyer included in the Call to Conference for more information. Call will be sent out in March, 2026.

In Memorium

Please submit the memorial form by
March 31, 2026.

Email the form, and a photo of your
deceased member to Governor-elect
Jackie at
soroptimistjackiedv@gmail.com
[LINK to the form from the website.](#)

MEMORIAL FORM

Happening Around the Region

District I- District Director Laura Koehler

This month, I wanted to highlight the achievements of District I. All clubs in District I received the Power of Eight Award, the Membership Retention Award, for 2024-2025. Three out of eight clubs in District I have Big Goal Accelerator projects. Congratulations to SI/El Cerrito, SI/Oakland - the Founder Club and SI/Richmond! Also, SI/Oakland - the Founder Club hosted the 3rd Annual International Friendship Event on October 25, 2025, at Chabot College in Hayward, California. The event was in person and also provided a zoom link to allow participation internationally. Congratulations to District I!

District II- District Director Dana Holve

In September, SI/Vallejo put a fun spin on its beloved Winemakers Dinner with “Rushing for a Cause: A College-Themed Party and Scholarship Auction.” Held at a local community college, the event embraced campus nostalgia with cafeteria-style bites, college swag, and wine pong. The celebration honored the many schools where SI/Vallejo has helped young women pursue education and raised over \$70,000 to support the club’s programs. In 2025, SI/Vallejo awarded \$55,000 in scholarships to fifteen college-bound seniors and has granted \$380,000 to 89 girls over the past decade. Its Live Your Dream program gave \$16,000 to five women this year, totaling \$102,555 to 39 women over ten years.

District III- District Director Nancy Koski

I love fall weather. District III clubs are deep into programs and fundraisers, which also generate lots of public awareness!

- SI/St Helena Sunrise held a very successful female film fundraiser in September. Funds raised support Girls On The Run North Bay, Napa Emergency Women’s Services, the Cameo Foundation, and LYD.
- SI/Napa held a fabulous Lobster Feed last month and SI/Sonoma Valley sold live and cooked lobsters the following weekend. Lots of deliciousness!
- SI/Novato, SI/St Helena Sunrise, and SI/Sonoma Valley have found Bingo Nights at local pubs to be good fundraisers, great community exposure, and perfect places for other women to discover Soroptimist in a fun atmosphere.

District IV- District Director Crystal Arbuthnot

It’s been a busy and rewarding time for SI/Eureka!

They welcomed a new member, Kathy Thornhill, who shares their passion for community service-welcome, Kathy! The club donated \$600 in children’s backpacks to the Betty Chinn Center and supplied much-needed medications to the Women’s Shelter, truly reflecting their mission to support women and families.

Their September Quarter Craze was a huge success, raising important funds for future projects-thank you to everyone who participated!

They also proudly sponsored a table at the Women in Business Luncheon, connecting with inspiring local leaders and sharing their club’s impact.

Great job, SI/Eureka! Together, you’re making a real difference. Thank you for all you do!

District V- District Director Teri Lynn Sato

I am so thankful to all the District V clubs dedicated to the Soroptimist Programs of Empowerment. To SI/Maui for hosting our District Meeting and Leadership Training Weekend, providing goodies, transportation, and your Valley Isle hospitality. To SI/NMI (Saipan) for holiday treats and newborn baskets for moms. To SI/Guam for participating in the Breast Cancer Awareness Health Fair and raising awareness of Soroptimist’s mission. To SICO for a Mini Fall Prevention session. To SIH for a Cyber Security meeting. To SI/North Oahu for welcoming new prospects. To SI/Waikiki Foundation, Inc. for supporting a DV Shelter with cleaning supplies, gift cards, and linens. And finally, to SIM (Guam) for sending member Tasi Castro to Maui to be empowered through our District Meeting and Leadership Training.





Dream It, Be It- Jackie Arnold-Chair

As we wrap up the year and head into the holiday season, I hope your club is doing well and continuing to inspire girls through the Dream It, Be It program. This is a wonderful time to reflect on all the positive impacts we've made and to start planning for even greater success in the year ahead. Don't forget to check out the new Dream It, Be It Club Tool Kit. It's filled with helpful, resources and fresh ideas to make your next program even more meaningful and engaging.

I'm always here to answer any questions or offer guidance as you plan your sessions or explore new ways to connect with your participants. Wishing each of you a warm and wonderful Thanksgiving season, filled with gratitude, joy, and the spirit of giving that defines our Soroptimist mission.

Live Your Dream- Maída Herbst-Chair

By now, most club chairs have signed their LYD application system confidentiality statement. Club chairs will have until November 28 to activate their account. After that date, SIA will transfer their applications to another club. Be sure to log in to your application system and even if you don't have any applicants yet, take a look at the help guide which can be found at the top of your dashboard under the pages tab. Lots of GREAT information here along with videos.

All club chairs should review this video for updated helpful reminders:

[VIDEO](#)

I am my club's LYD chair and when I have an applicant, I like to download and print the application right away. I also save a copy to my computer. There are clear instructions when you go into the application system.

Important: When you go into your club's application system, be sure to review all applications to be sure the applicant is eligible. You can find these guidelines on the SIA website under the LYD section.

If you have any questions about an application, you can ask your questions through the application system or you can email or call the applicant to get your answers. If you use the application system, the application will leave your dashboard until the applicant goes on-line and answers your question. They can answer after the November 15 deadline because they sent in their application before the deadline.

SIA asks us to remind clubs that they must give a CASH AWARD to an eligible applicant! Unless she requests otherwise, the funds must be given directly to the applicant.

Thank you all for helping women achieve economic empowerment through education.

MaidaRHIA@aol.com

"S" Clubs- Dawn Shepherd-Chair

Happy November from your "S" Club Region Chair Dawn Shepherd! Thanks to all of our "S"Clubs liaisons for all that you do for "S" Clubs in our region.

We are officially entering the Holiday months. Schools will have Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks coming up, so there isn't much time in the next couple of months to meet up with your "S"Clubs.

First, The "S" Club Outstanding Senior" award application is now ready. [LINK](#) There is no time like the present to try to get the word out to your "S" Club Senior girls.

With the holiday approaching, your "S"Clubs may want to consider a food drive or a coat drive to give to the local food bank and/or shelters. Maybe they can partner with your Soroptimist Club to collect an even larger quantity!

"S" Club liaisons -how about collaborating with your Dream it, Be it (DI,BI) Chair/committee? Your DI,BI committee can bring a module or two to an "S"Club meeting or plan a special evening meeting with your "S" clubs to present DI,BI. Bring pizza or sandwiches, give a gift card or 2-make it exciting!

Thank you again for all that you do for "S" Clubs!

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

SIA and SI News



The 49th Biennial Convention of Soroptimist International of the Americas (SIA)

When: July 22–25, 2026.

Where: Incheon, South Korea.

Focus: The convention aims to inspire dreams, provide training, and offer mission-focused content to empower women and girls.

Key Dates:

January 1, 2026: Mandatory convention fee invoice is sent out.

January 2–March 2: Applications for relief funds can be submitted.

March 15: Mandatory convention club fees are due.



Update from Soroptimist International- the emblem will now be in Blue and White. SI Branding page: [LINK](#)

Watch for Registration details and early bird discount- coming in March 2026



From all of us to all of you. We are very thankful for your support!

Founder Region Fellowship Board

President Vicki, Directors Amelia, Kay, Colleen, Treasurer Danelle, and Directors Cindy and Tess.





FELLOWSHIP REPORT

“Solving Puzzles by Degrees”

Thank you to all club members who supported Fellowship leading up to and during our District Meetings this past October. Our basket drawing at District Meetings continues to be our largest fundraiser of the year. Not only did members win the beautiful baskets provided by our clubs, but we were able to draw a total of 16 Fellows because of your generosity in purchasing basket tickets. A list of those Fellows can be found on the next page.

I want to give a special “Thank You” to District II Fellowship Director Kay Kelley who created and donated the beautiful “One Block Wonder” quilt. The drawing was held at the District V Meeting and the lucky winner was Lynn Levin from SI/The East Bay.

We will now move on to our Conference puzzle games. Your Fellowship Director has puzzles and will be bringing them to your club meetings to sell. Each puzzle holds 9 pieces for a chance to win a Fellow in nine different games. Puzzles are \$90 each for chances to win a Fellow. If you miss your director at a meeting, you can always contact her to purchase a puzzle directly from her or visit the Fellowship store on our website.

Fellowship still has beautiful T-shirts available; they come in purple or black, 3/4 length sleeves with the Fellowship logo on the front. You can order on our website or contact Fellowship Director Kay to purchase.

Again we ask you to please consider signing up for monthly giving. This is a relatively easy way to bring your donation to \$1,000 for a new Fellow or level up. Forms are available on our website or scan the QR code at the bottom of the page. Remember, that for Fellowship to continue to award our grants, we need continuing contributions. Your donations are truly appreciated.

Please contact your Fellowship Director with any questions you may have regarding our fundraisers or Fellowship in general. She is always ready and willing to help.

I wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving!

President Vicki



Fellowship Board

President—Vicki Ham

Treasurer—Danelle Tegarden

Fellowship Directors

District I—Amelia Benko

District II—Kay Kelley

District III—Colleen Ganaye

District IV—Tess Albin-Smith

District V—Cindy Rasmussen

Website:

www.founderregionfellowship.org

Email:

vickiham01@gmail.com

Treasurer Email:

danelletegarden@gmail.com

Address:

3505 Pine Street, Eureka, CA
95503



OUR MISSION:

To advance the Soroptimist mission by awarding grants to outstanding women in the final phase of their doctoral program within Founder Region.





Congratulations Fellow Winners at District Meetings!

District I/II Meeting

Sharon Wilkerson – SI/24-680
 Judith Bloom – SI/El Cerrito
 Cindy Russey – SI/Richmond
 Karen White – SI/Vacaville Twilight
 Deb Schrader – SI/Vacaville
 Dorothy Andrews – SI/Central Solano County
 Holly Hayashi – SI/Honolulu

District III/IV Meeting

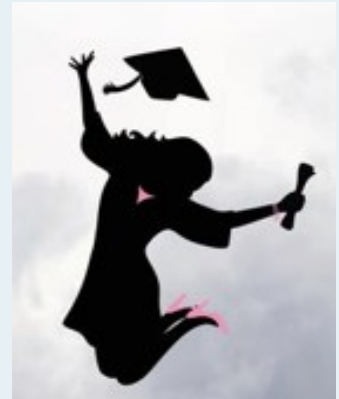
SI/Mendocino Sonoma Coast – Club to name fellow
 Gayle Keller – SI/Calistoga
 Irene Printzian – SI/St. Helena
 Karen Lorenzo – SI/Humboldt Bay
 Colleen Sichley – SI/Ukiah
 Debbie Scaife – SI/Eel River Valley

District V Meeting

Janice Ishiara – SI/Central Oahu
 Rene Tokunaga – SI/Central Oahu
 Elaine Randall – SI/Maui

A special “Thank You” to those who donated \$1,000

Karen White – SI/Vacaville Twilight
 Elizabeth Anne Payne – SI/American Canyon 2018
 Kitty Norris – SI/Willits
 SI/Novato Club Fellow awarded to Shaun Cooper



Please consider
 donating to
 Founder Region
 Fellowship
 on
#Giving Tuesday
 to ensure women
 are fully
 represented in
 research
 and academia.

Go to our
Facebook Page
for more details
on December 2nd.





At the conference in May, we will be voting for Founder Region Board for the 2026-2028 biennium, and the Fellowship Board. Forms were sent to the club email addresses at the end of September. You can download a form from the link below. The form is to be submitted by your club. You do not need the candidate's permission to nominate them. They will be notified after December 1, 2025. For questions ask your committee member, or chair Barbara.

Nominating Committee

Barbara Lanier, Chair	lanierwilson@gmail.com
District I-Bev Gomer	Bevgomer3@gmail.com
District II-Karen Jameson	Karenjameson0699@sbcglobal.net
District III-Madelienne F. Peters, EdD	madeliennepeters@gmail.com
District IV- Sue Finch	Suefinch4620@gmail.com
District V- Jackie Pactol	jhpactol@gmail.com

Use one form per club. Return form to the nominating committee member listed above by Dec. 1, 2025.

[LINK TO NOMINATION FORM](#)

2026-2028 Biennium

Committee Members needed for 2026-2028



🌟 Ready to Make a Bigger Impact? 🌟

Have you ever thought about getting involved at the Region level, but you're not quite ready to run for the board yet? Serving on a **committee** is the perfect way to learn more, share your talents, and make a difference for all Soroptimist members across Founder Region.

I'm beginning to reach out to members, and I'd love your help!

If you're ready to serve, or even just curious about how you can contribute, please let me know. There's a place for everyone! 💜

- 📖 **Numbers your thing?** If you're a bookkeeper or accountant (or retired from the profession) and have served as a club treasurer, we'd love to have you on the **Financial Review Committee**.
- ⚖️ **Love rules and structure?** If bylaws and details make your heart sing, then the **Laws & Resolutions Committee** is calling your name!

Together, we can build, grow, and strengthen our Region, one committee at a time. 💪🌟

[Contact me- soroptimistjackiedv@gmail.com](mailto:soroptimistjackiedv@gmail.com)



Soroptimist International of the Americas®, Inc.

Member/Leader Code of Conduct

August 2025

VISION AND APPLICABILITY

Vision and Purpose

Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc. ® (SIA) is committed to our organization's core values, as stated in our [strategic plan](#). Our value of DIVERSITY & FELLOWSHIP (Women from varied backgrounds and perspectives work together to improve the lives of women and girls) brings us together to provide women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.

As Soroptimists, we are committed to doing what is right and honorable. We set high standards for ourselves, and we aspire to meet these standards in all aspects of our lives—at work, home and in service to our respective professions.

This Member/Leader Code of Conduct describes our expectations of ourselves, articulates our ideals and defines the behaviors expected in our organization.

The purpose of this Code is to instill confidence in how we carry out SIA's business and to help individuals become better Soroptimists. We do this by establishing an organization-wide understanding of appropriate behavior. The collective conduct of individual members shapes SIA's credibility and reputation. Embracing this Member/Leader Code of Conduct can advance our work individually and collectively, and will also assist us in making wise decisions, particularly when faced with difficult situations in which we may be asked to compromise our integrity or our values.

Persons to Whom the Code Applies

The Member/Leader Code of Conduct applies to all SIA Members.

1. RESPONSIBILITY

Description of Responsibility

Responsibility is our commitment to take ownership of the decisions we make or fail to make, the actions we take or fail to take, and the consequences that result.

As members of SIA:

- i. We make decisions and take actions based on the best interests of Soroptimist and the women and girls we serve.
- ii. We fulfill our commitments – we endeavor to do what we say we will do, and proactively communicate when we cannot.
- iii. When we make errors or omissions, we take ownership and make corrections promptly. When we discover errors or omissions caused by others, we alert the individual(s) as soon as possible. We accept accountability for any issues resulting from our errors or omissions and any resulting consequences.
- iv. We protect the proprietary or confidential information entrusted to us.
- v. We strive to uphold this Code and hold each other accountable.
- vi. We inform ourselves and uphold the policies, rules, regulations, and laws that govern our work and volunteer activities.
- vii. We report unethical or illegal conduct to appropriate individuals.
Comment: These provisions have several implications. Specifically, we do not engage in any illegal behavior, including but not limited to theft, fraud, corruption, embezzlement, or bribery. Further, we do not take or abuse the property of others, including intellectual property, nor do we engage in slander or libel.

We do not condone or assist others in engaging in illegal behavior. We report any illegal or unethical conduct. Reporting is difficult, and we recognize that it may have negative consequences. Since recent corporate scandals, many organizations have adopted policies to protect individuals who reveal the truth about illegal or unethical activities. Some governments have also adopted legislation to protect individuals who come forward with the truth.
- viii. We bring violations of this Code to the attention of the appropriate body for resolution.
- ix. We only file ethics complaints when they are substantiated by facts.
Comment: These provisions have several implications. We cooperate with SIA concerning ethics violations and the collection of related information, whether we are a complainant or a respondent. We

also abstain from accusing others of ethical misconduct when we do not have all the facts. Further, we pursue disciplinary action against individuals who knowingly make false allegations against others.

- x. We pursue disciplinary action against an individual who retaliates against a person raising ethics concerns.

2. RESPECT

Description of Respect

Respect is our commitment to show high regard for ourselves, others, and the resources entrusted to us. These resources may include people, money, reputation, the safety of others, and informational resources.

An environment of respect engenders trust, confidence, and performance excellence by fostering collaboration—an environment where diverse perspectives and views are encouraged and valued.

As members of SIA:

- i. We inform ourselves about what it means to be diverse, inclusive, and equitable to foster respect.
- ii. We listen to others' points of view, seeking to understand them.
- iii. We directly approach those with whom we have a conflict or disagreement. When uncomfortable directly addressing conflicts or disagreements, we seek counsel from members in SIA leadership positions.
- iv. We conduct ourselves in a respectful manner, even when it is not reciprocated.
Comment: An implication of these provisions is that we avoid gossiping and making negative remarks to undermine another person's reputation. We also have a responsibility under this Code to address others who engage in these behaviors.
- v. We negotiate in good faith.
- vi. We do not exercise the power of our expertise or position to influence the decisions or actions of others to benefit personally.

3. FAIRNESS

Description of Fairness

Fairness is our commitment to make decisions and act impartially and objectively. Our conduct must be free from competing self-interest, prejudice, and favoritism.

As members of SIA:

- i. We demonstrate transparency.
- ii. We constantly reexamine our impartiality and objectivity.
- iii. We make opportunities available equally for all members.
- iv. We proactively and fully disclose any real or potential conflicts of interest to the appropriate individuals.

Comment: A conflict of interest occurs when we can influence decisions or other outcomes on behalf of one party when such decisions or outcomes could affect one or more other parties with which we have competing loyalties. For example, when we are acting as an employee, we have a duty of loyalty to our employer. When we are acting as a SIA volunteer, we have a duty of loyalty to Soroptimist International of the Americas. We must recognize these divergent interests and refrain from influencing decisions when we have a conflict of interest.

Further, even if we believe that we can set aside our divided loyalties and make decisions impartially, we treat the appearance of a conflict of interest as a conflict of interest and follow the provisions described in the Code.

- v. We do not discriminate against others based on, but not limited to, gender, race, age, religion, disability, nationality, or sexual orientation.
- vi. We apply the rules of our organization in a consistent manner.

4. HONESTY

Description of Honesty

Honesty is our responsibility to understand the truth and act transparently in our communications and conduct.

As members of SIA:

- i. We earnestly seek to understand the truth.
- ii. We endeavor to provide accurate information in a timely manner.

Comment: An implication of these provisions is that we take appropriate steps to ensure that the information we base our decisions upon or provide to others is accurate, reliable, and timely.

This includes having the courage to share bad news even when it may be poorly received. Also, when outcomes are negative, we avoid hiding information or blaming others. When outcomes are positive, we avoid taking credit for the achievements of others. These provisions reinforce our commitment to be both honest and responsible.

- iii. In good faith, we honor our commitments and promises.
- iv. We strive to create an environment where others feel safe sharing their understanding of the truth.
- v. We do not engage in dishonest behavior.

Comment: These standards exhort us to be truthful. Half-truths and non-disclosures intended to mislead stakeholders are as unprofessional as affirmatively making misrepresentations. We develop credibility by providing complete and accurate information.

5. LEADERSHIP

Description of Leadership

Leadership is a set of positive behaviors that help members align with SIA's mission, vision, core values, and strategic objectives.

As members of SIA:

- i. We practice proper use of authority and decorum.
- ii. We do not exercise individual authority over SIA, its region, clubs, or members except as explicitly set forth by SIA's bylaws and procedures.
- iii. We support the decisions set forth by our elected leadership and seek to understand the impetus for these decisions.
- iv. We are responsible for ensuring an excellent member experience.

Last year Founder Region submitted BGAP projects that served over 1800 women and girls! Remember to submit as soon as possible, and for recognition at Conference submit by **March 31, 2026**.

BGAP projects are how we will reach our Big Goal.

celebrating
BIG GOAL GAINS



Soroptimist's Big Goal: Invest in the dreams of half a million women and girls through access to education.

DURING 2024-2025:

2,353

women received a *Live Your Dream Award*®

23,870

girls participated in *Dream It, Be It*®

21,655

women and girls participated in Big Goal Accelerator Projects

TOTAL

Since 2021

140,962

women and girls participated in projects that work toward our Big Goal





Congratulations to the following clubs for reporting their Big Goal Accelerator Projects in 2024-2025!

In 2024-2025, 305 clubs hosted a total of 597 projects that invested in access to education for 24,293 women and girls facing obstacles to their success, expending 53,572 volunteer hours to support these projects. Clubs distributed \$532,426 in scholarships and education awards! These projects also attracted 350 new members to SIA.

America del Sur Region

SI/Alto Paraná
SI/Arandu
SI/Encarnacion
SI/Gloriosas
SI/Guarapuava
SI/Lima
SI/Luz Paraguay
SI/Perla del Sur

Brazil Region

SI/Catanduva
SI/Porto Alegre Metropolitana
SI/São Vicente

Camino Real Region

SI/Channel Islands
SI/Camarillo
SI/Montebello
SI/Oxnard
SI/Simi Valley
SI/Valencia
SI/Ventura

Central East Coast Region

SI/Havre de Grace
SI/Raleigh

SI/Woodbridge

Desert Coast Region

SI/Buena Park
SI/Capistrano Bay
SI/Coronado
SI/Covina-West Covina
SI/Cypress
SI/Fullerton
SI/Greater Yuma
SI/Huntington Beach
SI/Newport Harbor Area
SI/Norwalk/Santa Fe Springs
SI/North San Diego
SI/Poway
SI/Ramona
SI/San Diego
SI/San Dimas/La Verne
SI/Vista & North County Inland
SI/Whittier

Eastern Canada Region

SI/Grand Erie
SI/Peterborough
SI/Thunder Bay

Founder Region

SI/American Canyon 2018
SI/Antioch
SI/Arcata CA
SI/Calistoga
SI/Central Oahu HI
SI/Central Solano County
SI/Dixon
SI/Eel River Valley
SI/El Cerrito
SI/Fort Bragg
SI/Honolulu
SI/Humboldt Bay
SI/Maui
SI/Napa
SI/Noyo Sunrise
SI/Oakland Club-Founders Club
SI/Richmond
SI/Rio Vista
SI/Vacaville
SI/Sonoma Valley
SI/St. Helena
SI/The Delta
SI/Ukiah
SI/Vacaville Twilight

SI/Vallejo
SI/Waikiki Foundation, Inc.

Golden West Region

SI/Chino Hills/Inland Empire
SI/Corona
SI/Desert Tucson
SI/Happy Valley of the Sun
SI/Moreno Valley
SI/Mountain Morning
SI/Parker
SI/San Jacinto Hemet Valley CA
SI/Victor Valley, CA
SI/Yucca Valley

Japan Chuo Region

SI/Omihachiman

Japan Higashi Region

SI/Atsugi
SI/Kawasaki
SI/Niigata-Nishi
SI/Niigata
SI/Takasaki
SI/Tokyo-Chofu Laurel
SI/Tokyo-Kome
SI/Tokyo-Yayoi
SI/Utsunomiya
SI/Yamanashi-Fuyo
SI/Sano

Japan Kita Region

SI/Aizu
SI/Koriyama
SI/Noshiro
SI/Obihiro Midori

Japan Minami Region

SI/Aira
SI/Amami
SI/Arita
SI/Beppu

SI/Buzen
SI/Dazaifu
SI/Fukuoka
SI/Fukuoka-Daini
SI/Fukuoka-Kita
SI/Fukuoka-Minami
SI/Fukuoka-Nishi
SI/Fukuoka-Yayoi
SI/Hakata
SI/Hita
SI/Hitoyoshi
SI/Iizuka
SI/Imari
SI/Isahaya
SI/Izumi
SI/Kagoshima
SI/Kagoshima-Minami
SI/Kanoya
SI/Karatsu
SI/Kitakyushu
SI/Kobayashi
SI/Kurume
SI/Kurume-Aura
SI/Kushima
SI/Kumamoto
SI/Kumamoto-Sakura
SI/Kumamoto-Sumire
SI/Kumamoto-Wakaba
SI/Miyazaki
SI/Miyazaki-Higashimoro
SI/Miyazaki-Himawari
SI/Miyazaki-Phoenix
SI/Miyazaki-Tamayura
SI/Miyakonojo
SI/Miyawaka
SI/Munakata
SI/Nagasaki
SI/Nagasaki-Garland
SI/Nakatsu
SI/Nichinan

SI/Nitoyo
SI/Nobeoka
SI/Nogata
SI/Ogori
SI/Oita
SI/Oita-Midori
SI/Okinawa
SI/Omura
SI/Online Fukuoka Aegis
SI/Online Kagoshima
SI/Saga
SI/Saga Ariake
SI/Saga Chubu
SI/Saga Friends
SI/Saga Online
SI/Saga Seibu
SI/Saga Tobu
SI/Sasebo
SI/Sasebo-Pearl
SI/Tagawa
SI/Takanabe
SI/Tamana
SI/Tanegashima
SI/Yabakei
SI/Yanagawa
SI/Yatsushiro
SI/Yukuhashi Miyako

Japan Nishi

SI/Fukuyama
SI/Hofu
SI/Kurayoshi
SI/Okayama

Korea Region

SI/Apgujeong
Si/Chungdong
SI/Daegu Club
SI/Daeguchungla
SI/Daegupalgong
SI/Daejeon

SI/Dalgubeol Club
SI/Hanyang
SI/Namsan
SI/New Seoul Club
SI/Seoseoul
SI/Ulsantaehwa

Mexico/Centroamerica Region

SI/Bocas Islas
SI/David
SI/Pamana Pacifico
SI/Rio Tijuana
SI/Volcan

Midwestern Region

SI/Bloomington-Normal
SI/Columbus & Franklin Co.
SI/Fond du Lac
SI/Fremont
SI/Grosse Pointe
SI/Greater Macomb
SI/Illiana
SI/Kenton/Hardin County
SI/Middletown Ohio
SI/Monroe County, Michigan

North Atlantic Region

SI/Central Jersey Coast
SI/Connecticut Shoreline
SI/Fayette County
SI/Harrisburg PA
SI/Phoenixville
SI/Saratoga County
SI/Willimantic, CT

Northwestern Region

SI/Albany
SI/Brookings, Oregon
SI/Cascadia Online
SI/Chehalem Valley
SI/Clark County
SI/Coupeville

SI/Everett
SI/Greater Hermiston Area
SI/Greater North Kitsap
SI/Hamilton
SI/Klamath Falls
SI/La Conner
SI/La Grande, Oregon
SI/Lower Yakima Valley
SI/McMinnville
SI/Moses Lake WA
SI/Oak Harbor
SI/Okanogan Valley
SI/Pasco-Kennewick
SI/Port Angeles Jet Set
SI/Port Orchard
SI/Portland
SI/Seattle Metropolitan
SI/Sequim
SI/Three Rivers
SI/Southwest Washington

Peaks to Plains Region

SI/Boise
SI/Fort Collins CO
SI/Ogden, UT
SI/Sal Lake City UT
SI/Scotts Bluff County
SI/Sioux Falls
SI/Caldwell
SI/Treasure Valley, ID
SI/Twin Cities

Philippines Region

SI/Batangas Downtown
SI/Angeles City
SI/Batangas Premier
SI/Caloocan City
SI/Cordillera
SI/Founder Manila
SI/Guagua
SI/Gumaca

SI/Kabatanguena Philippines
SI/Kabayan
SI/Kabisig
SI/Kalibo
SI/Magalang
SI/Malabon
SI/Manila Diamond
SI/Manila Gold
SI/Meycauayan - Sto. Niño
SI/Metro Cabanatuan
SI/Ortigas and Environs
SI/Pampanga
SI/Plaridel
SI/Puente Hills
SI/Rosario
SI/San Antonio
SI/San Rafael
SI/Silangan
SI/Tanauan

Sierra Nevada Region

SI/American River
SI/Carson City
SI/Chico
SI/Davis
SI/Greater Davis
SI/Mineral County
SI/Pahrump Valley
SI/Quincy
SI/Rancho Cordova and Gold River
SI/Sacramento
SI/SI Elk Grove
SI/Tahoe Sierra
SI/Truckee Meadows
SI/Woodland

Sierra Pacific Region

SI/Calaveras County
SI/Ceres
SI/Clovis

SI/Los Banos, CA
SI/Madera
SI/Modesto North
SI/Oakdale
SI/San Francisco
SI/Santa Clara Silicon Valley
SI/The Sierras
SI/Watsonville

South Central Region

SI/Amarillo, Texas
SI/Austin
SI/Dallas, Texas
SI/Dodge City, KS
SI/Greater St. Louis
SI/Kansas City
SI/Muskogee

Southern Region

SI/Davie
SI/Lucie
SI/Stuart, Florida

Western Canada Region

SI/Abbotsford Mission
SI/Calgary
SI/Chilliwack
SI/Saskatoon
SI/Tri Cities
SI/Vancouver

IGNITING CHANGE FOR WOMEN

OUR GLOBAL IMPACT IN FY24/25



3.4 MILLION +
in education awards
disbursed



2,353
inspiring women received an
award



31,000 +
volunteer hours dedicated to
the *Live Your Dream Awards*®



646
members joined Soroptimist because
of the *Live Your Dream Awards*®

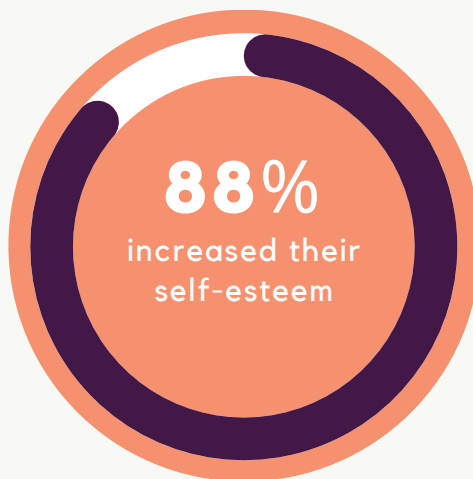
"When I was in school receiving the award, not only was the award a financial benefit, it was a symbol that others saw my hard work, and that they believed in me."

U.S. recipient

"Receiving the *Live Your Dream Award* opened the door for me to be someone I thought was lost. It helped me to be more self-reliant and to not give up on my dreams."

Paraguyan recipient

WOMEN ARE ECONOMICALLY EMPOWERED



*of the 57% who are survivors of gendered violence

Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment, specifically those facing significant obstacles.

Learn more about our impact at: www.soroptimist.org



PREPARING GIRLS FOR A **BRIGHTER FUTURE**

OUR GLOBAL IMPACT IN FY24/25

23,870 girls participated
across **14** countries and territories



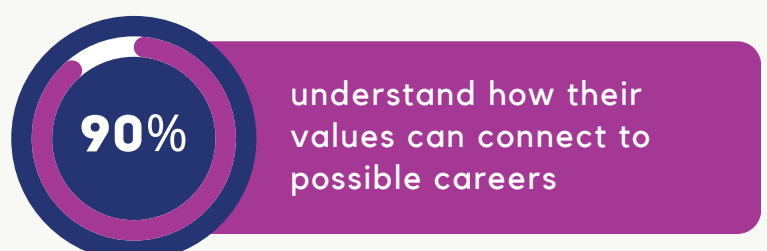
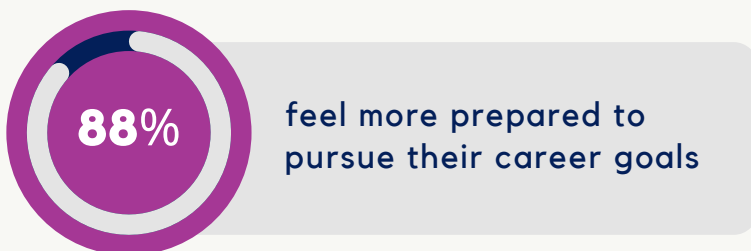
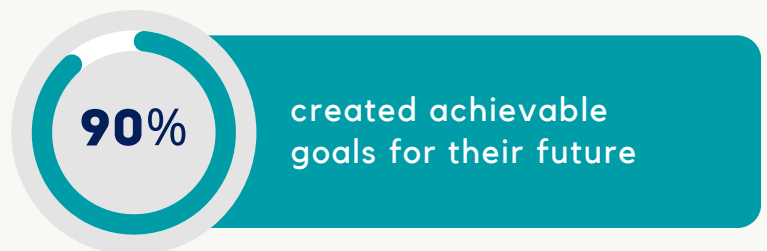
"My future had been uncertain until now, but receiving advice from people with a wide range of experiences and careers has given me a clearer picture of the path I should take."

Japan Kita Region participant

"The *Dream It, Be It*® program did not just teach me to dream but also equipped us with the confidence and skills to turn those dreams into reality."

Philippines Region participant

GIRLS ARE EMPOWERED TO LIVE THEIR DREAMS



Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment, specifically those facing significant obstacles.

View the full *Dream It, Be It* Impact Report at: soropt.link/DIBImpact





The Soroptimist Stargazers are an incredible community of generous, passionate, and devoted individuals—like YOU. They are an unstoppable force, creating positive and lasting change in the lives of women and girls around the world—and **we think you're going to fit right in!**

Each month, your contribution will be automatically processed, allowing you to steadily build your recognition in the Laurel Society while providing thousands of women and girls with the tools they need to succeed!

We envision a day when every woman and girl is ensured a brighter future, reaches her full potential, and lives her dream.

You will be receiving a star-shaped Stargazer Monthly Giver pin to honor your commitment and generosity. Please wear it with pride your to virtual and in-person SIA events.

Together we have the power to make dreams a reality!

Sustaining Our Dream Programs

Soroptimist Stargazers

ENROLLMENT FORM

☐ **YES! I am ready to become a Soroptimist Stargazer!**

DONOR NAME

MEMBER ID (if applicable)

DAYTIME PHONE

EMAIL ADDRESS

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP/POSTAL CODE

COUNTRY

SELECT YOUR MONTHLY GIFT AMOUNT (US\$):

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$100 ☐ OTHER US\$ _____

☐ Donor wishes to remain anonymous

PLEASE APPLY MY GIFT TO:

☐ Unrestricted Support

☐ *Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls®*

☐ *Live Your Dream: Education & Training Awards for Women®*

SELECT A GIVING OPTION:

☐ Please transfer my monthly gifts from my checking account. Enclosed is a voided check that shows the account and routing numbers for my account. I understand my future gifts will be transferred directly from my account.

☐ Here is my credit card information. Please transfer my monthly gifts from my credit card. I understand my future gifts will be transferred directly from my credit card.

____ VISA

____ MASTERCARD

____ AMERICAN EXPRESS

CARD NUMBER

EXPIRATION DATE

SECURITY CODE

CARD HOLDER'S NAME (please print)

SIGNATURE (required for credit card AND check donations)

DATE

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION! PLEASE SUBMIT THIS FORM:

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF THE AMERICAS, INC.®

PO Box 95000 - 2553, Philadelphia, PA, USA 19195-0001

PHONE: 215-893-9000 **FAX:** 215-893-5200 **EMAIL:** development@soroptimist.org

Club Giving supports Soroptimist's impact in many ways:

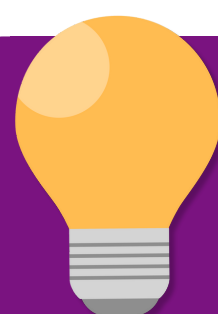
Club Assistance



Club Giving allows us to:

- Provide Soroptimist Club Grants and distribute the funds to local club projects in support of the Big Goal.
- Develop resources that help clubs raise funds and create impact locally.

Member Resources



Club Giving allows us to:

- Create and annually update training materials, promotional materials, and procedures for the Dream Programs.
- Translate materials so they are available in the six languages used by our members and the women and girls we serve.



Live Your Dream Awards



Club Giving allows us to:

- Fund *Live Your Dream Awards* for women who live more than 75 miles from a Soroptimist club.
- Enable newly chartered clubs to provide their first *Live Your Dream Award*.
- Fund *Live Your Dream Awards* for region and federation recipients!

Research & Advocacy



Club Giving allows us to:

- Track and analyze program data across all regions to be able to communicate our collective impact.
- Provide information to help our volunteer representatives with their advocacy efforts for the UN and UN-related events.

The recommended Club Giving contribution is **10% of your club's locally raised funds**. Please make your gift online by **June 30** at <https://www.soroptimist.org/clubgiving.html>

Recognition for Club Giving contributions

received July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026



Recognition	Dream Catchers \$10,000+	Dream Chasers \$5,000 - \$9,999.99	Dream Builders \$2,500 - \$4,999.99	Dream Believers \$1,000 - \$2,499.99	Dreamers \$500 - \$999.99	Contributors \$1 - \$499.99
Listing on the Development Dispatch newsletter to all members	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Club name listed on the annual Club Giving Honor Roll	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Badge of honor to post on club’s website	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
SIA social media mention	✓	✓	—	—	—	—
Best for Women mention	✓	✓	—	—	—	—
Feature spotlight story on the SIA blog	✓	—	—	—	—	—
\$1,000 <i>Live Your Dream Award*</i>	✓	—	—	—	—	—

**Live Your Dream Awards* will be distributed in the 2026-2027 club year.

Soroptimists UpliftHER

Soroptimists UpliftHER

Soroptimists UpliftHER is an exciting new member engagement initiative from the program department. Once a quarter, we will focus on an obstacle that women and girls face on their path to formal education and economic empowerment. SIA headquarters will share information about the obstacle, as well as suggested projects related to that obstacle that count towards our Big Goal. Clubs can participate in the quarterly project focus by sharing SIA posts and posting their own projects with the hashtag #SoroptimistsUpliftHER.

Focus Areas and Projects

October: Intimate Partner Violence

- Partner with a local shelter to provide professional dress clothing for women who have experienced violence and provide training on interview basics, resume writing, and career advancement. Be sure to report it as a [Big Goal Accelerator Project](#).

January: Trafficking

- Provide a scholarship for woman who have experienced trafficking and if appropriate, offer a career or college mentoring program. Be sure to report it as a [Big Goal Accelerator Project](#) (or [Live Your Dream Award](#), if you give one to a survivor of trafficking).

March: Single Parenting

- Financial assistance for childcare during school or training programs can make a huge difference to a single parent! If your club provides childcare grants to single mothers, be sure to [report it](#) to SIA.

May: Period Poverty

- Host a drive and get hands-on while you create period kits to donate to local agencies serving foster girls, shelters, or low-income schools. Don't forget to [report it](#) to SIA!

Ways to Get Involved!

This is a completely voluntary initiative, but we do hope members and clubs will be excited to participate!

- Share SIA's posts about each monthly focus on social media.
- Post about your club's own project using the hashtag #SoroptimistsUpliftHER.
- Participate in one of the suggested quarterly projects and report it to SIA as appropriate!

Questions? Email Program@soroptimist.org for more information.