

## NEWS RELEASE: New Soroptimist Club

### **WOMEN'S VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION CHARTERS ON THE CONNECTICUT SHORELINE**

Club forms to benefit local women and girls

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Soroptimist International of the Americas has announced the chartering of a new club on the Connecticut Shoreline on December 13<sup>th</sup>. Founded in 1921, Soroptimist, or “Best for Women”, is a global volunteer organization for women with the mission of improving the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment. Soroptimist International holds a United Nations non-governmental organization consultative status.

The local club, “Soroptimist International Connecticut Shoreline”, chartered with an initial 13 members who are committed to the core values of gender equality, empowerment, education, diversity, and fellowship for women and girls in local communities and throughout the world.

Beth Peterson, of Groton, will be installed as the club’s first president. “These are women in our community who wish to contribute their time to helping other women,” Peterson said. “Our club has set out to enhance the status of women and girls, and empower them both locally and globally.” The club’s next meeting is on January 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:00–7:30pm at the Groton Public Library with a guest speaker from the Connecticut Women’s Education and Legal Fund (CWEALF). For more information about the local club, contact Beth Peterson at 860-389-2532 or elizabethpeterson25@gmail.com.

Soroptimist International Connecticut Shoreline charter members join Soroptimists in 20 countries and territories worldwide who are committed to investing in programs that have a sustainable, measurable change for women and girls. The organization’s current main project is the “Live Your Dream: Education and Training Awards for Women”. The awards provide women who serve as the primary wage earners for their families with financial assistance to offset costs associated their efforts to improve their education, skills and job prospects. Its newest program, “Dream It, Be It – Career Support for Girls”, targets girls in secondary school who face obstacles to their future success. Soroptimist is a 501(c)(3) organization that relies on charitable donations to support its programs. To donate or for more information about Soroptimist International visit [www.soroptimist.org](http://www.soroptimist.org)