



Soroptimist Frequently Asked Questions

What is Soroptimist?

Soroptimist is a 501(c)(3) international organization of women who work to improve the lives of women and girls. Loosely translated from Latin, Soroptimist is a coined term meaning "best for women."

What is the organization's mission?

A global volunteer organization working to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.

Why does Soroptimist focus on women and girls?

Soroptimist was formed because in 1921 women who were interested in volunteering in their communities were not permitted to join male service organizations. Since that time, the organization has worked to help women improve their standing in the world. Despite tremendous strides, women still do not enjoy equal economic or social status with their male counterparts. As an organization of and for women, Soroptimist feels uniquely qualified to tackle the challenges facing today's women and girls.

What programs does Soroptimist offer?

Soroptimist offers several programs that improve the lives of women and girls.

The signature program of Soroptimist is its Live Your Dream Award which assists women with primary financial responsibility for their families obtain the skills, training, and education necessary to improve their employment status and standard of living for themselves and their dependents. Each year, more than \$1.6 million in funds were awarded at various levels of the organization to more than 1,200 women.

Local clubs also participate in community-based projects that benefit woman and girls in areas such as domestic and workplace violence, breast cancer awareness/prevention, and human trafficking. Dream It, Be It targets girls in secondary school who face obstacles to their future success. It provides girls with access to professional role models, career education and resources to live their dreams.

How are Soroptimist programs funded?

Soroptimist programs are funded by investment income, member dues, and contributions from clubs and members. As a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, Soroptimist also depends on outside contributions from businesses and individuals who wish to embrace and support the Soroptimist mission. Visit www.soroptimist.org for more information.

**For more information about a club near you, visit www.soroptimistner.org
or email Joan Merritt ~ joanmerritt@charter.net 860.428.1230
Follow us on Facebook ~ Soroptimist International Northeastern Region**

***You Have the Power to Change Another Woman's Life!
Why Not Join Us?***