

August 12, 2011

Ms. Sharon Fisher  
President  
Soroptimist International of the Americas

Dear President Sharon,

First of all, please accept our sincerest appreciation for your understanding and cooperation to our action for this time of “the East Japan Earthquakes”.

In the SIA President Report at the 19<sup>th</sup> SI Convention in Montreal in July 2011, you had spared your precious time for providing an ideal opportunity for us to express our deepest gratitude. Also, you had accurately conveyed our Japan Kita Region Disaster Report to Soroptimist members in the workshop of “Women in the Aftermath of Disaster”. We were really impressed and thank you most sincerely for your all assistance.

During the convention, many Soroptimist members from all around the world had expressed their heartfelt sympathy and provided encouragement to us. They were highly concerned with Japan Disaster and were frequently asked “Have you already launched projects to assist affected people in Japan? “to us. Now, it is our pleasure to report to you that “The Soroptimist KIZUNA Project – Heart to Heart -” is founded as a joint project by 5 regions in Japan.

The Japan 5 regions joint project “ The Soroptimist KIZUNA Project - Heart to Heart –“will be a 3 years project and planned for providing scholarships for junior high school girl students with great potential who have lost their parents by Japan Disaster. They will receive JP¥ 30,000 per month for 3 years while in high school, and need not pay back the scholarship. The financial resources of this scholarship are donations that we had ever received and future donations from Soroptimist all over the world. Kita Region Board of Directors will be in charge of logistics. All the details will be finalized with specialists and be later reported along with procedures and applications.

In great appreciation for your support.

Sincerely yours,

篠島 恵里子  
Eriko Shinojima,  
Governor, Japan Kita Region  
Soroptimist International of the Americas