



2010-2011 Program Quick Reference Guide

Soroptimist International of the America's Major Project

Soroptimist Women's Opportunity Awards

The Soroptimist Women's Opportunity Awards program was established in 1972 to assist women with primary financial responsibility for their families to obtain the skills training and education necessary to improve their employment status and standard of living for themselves and their family. Each year, more than US \$1.5 million in club, region, and federation funds is awarded to more than 1000 women in SIA's 19 member countries and territories. The women receiving these financial awards may use them for any costs associated with their educational efforts, including tuition, books, child care, and transportation. The Women's Opportunity Awards application is available as an easy-to-use writeable PDF form. Soroptimist clubs can email the application to partner organizations or directly to individual applicants. Applicants will then be able to complete the application online and email the completed form directly to clubs. The writeable application can be found in the program section of the members' area of the SIA website.

[Soroptimist Women's Opportunity Awards Resources](#)

Projects that Benefit Women and Girls

Soroptimists STOP Trafficking

The goal of the Soroptimists STOP Trafficking project is to raise awareness in the general population about trafficking and sexual slavery. To that end, Soroptimist has developed a printed card that provides information to the public at large about the sex trafficking of women and girls. This project can be conducted at any time of the year. December 2 the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery (non-US) and January 11 the National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness (US) are suggested dates as they will provide a good media hook for the distribution of the cards. However, the Soroptimists STOP Trafficking cards and publicity materials are designed to be used whenever it is convenient for the club.

[Soroptimists STOP Trafficking Resources](#)

Soroptimist Teen Dating Violence Bookmark

SIA has designed a bookmark to help clubs raise awareness about teen dating violence and to promote healthy teen relationships. The bookmarks are available as a sales item on the SIA website. They are also available as a writeable PDF document, which clubs can personalize and print at a local copy store or online printing vendor. The bookmarks and instructions for printing can be found in the program section of the members' area of the SIA website. The bookmarks for sale can be found in the Soroptimist Store section of the SIA website.

[Soroptimist Teen Dating Violence Bookmark – Sales Item](#)

[Soroptimist Teen Dating Violence Bookmark – Writeable PDF](#)

Soroptimist Workplace Campaign to End Domestic Violence

The *Soroptimist Workplace Campaign to End Domestic Violence* is an ongoing effort to raise awareness about a little addressed domestic violence issue: domestic violence as a workplace concern. The federation provides information and materials for clubs to use to participate in the program. The materials include a writeable hot-line card that clubs can personalize and have printed. The cards are also now available as a sales item and can be purchased through the Soroptimist store on the SIA website. These sales item hotline cards include the web address to a new dedicated webpage for the workplace campaign. Please see below for more information. SIA recommends that clubs distribute the cards in women's rest rooms in a workplace setting and have them placed inside paycheck envelopes. The campaign takes

place on November 25th, the International Day to Eliminate Violence against Women. SIA also offers Domestic Violence Workplace Guidelines, containing information and instructions for members and clubs to implement domestic violence policies in their workplaces.

[Soroptimist Workplace Campaign to End Domestic Violence Resources](#)
[Soroptimist Workplace Campaign Hotline Cards – Sales Item](#)

New!

Dedicated Webpage for the Soroptimist Workplace Campaign to End Domestic Violence

The Soroptimist Workplace Campaign to End Domestic Violence dedicated webpage has been specifically designed to provide information and materials for employees who are the target of domestic abuse, their co-workers and their employees. The webpage includes instructions for participation in the campaign, guidelines for implementing domestic violence workplace policies, sample publicity materials, hotline cards (which include the web address to this new webpage) and links for additional resources, including a link to the SIA white paper on domestic violence as a workplace concern.

[Soroptimist Workplace Campaign to End Domestic Violence – Dedicated Webpage](#)

Soroptimist Club Grants for Women and Girls

The Soroptimist Club Grants for Women and Girls are awards given to Soroptimist clubs to start or continue projects in their communities that improve the lives of women or girls, in accordance with the mission of SIA. This year \$175,000 in funds are available. The deadline for proposals is **March 17, 2011**.

[Soroptimist Club Grants for Women and Girls Resources](#)

Soroptimist Disaster Grants for Women and Girls

The Soroptimist Disaster Grants for Women and Girls provides grants to clubs and regions for projects that benefit women and girls in areas affected by a natural disaster or acts of war. Grants, which range from \$1,000 to \$20,000, can be used for disaster preparedness, disaster relief or disaster recovery projects. Clubs or regions can apply for a disaster grant at any time.

[Soroptimist Disaster Grants for Women and Girls](#)

Soroptimist Violet Richardson Award

The Soroptimist Violet Richardson Award is a recognition program for young women ages 14-17 engaged in volunteer action within their communities or schools. The award is given to young women whose activities make the community and world a better place. The Violet Richardson Award application is available as an easy-to-use writeable PDF form. Soroptimist clubs can email the application to partner organizations or directly to individual applicants. Applicants will then be able to complete the application online and email the completed form directly to clubs. The writeable application can be found in the program section of the members' area of the SIA website.

[Soroptimist Violet Richardson Award Resources](#)

Soroptimist Ruby Award: For Women Helping Women

The Soroptimist Ruby Award, formerly the Soroptimist Making a Difference for Women Award, is named after the first federation President Ruby Leed Minor. Ruby is also a gemstone associated with wisdom, importance, vitality, strength, power and love: All words embodying the award recipients. The Ruby Award honors women who have worked to improve the lives of women and girls through their professional or volunteer work.

[Soroptimist Ruby Award Resources](#)

Soroptimist Club Matching Project

Throughout SIA, members address a variety of unique issues facing the women and girls of their communities; for women and girls have different needs and challenges depending on where they live. The Soroptimist Club Matching Project will link two clubs together—a club that needs help with a project and a club that would like to supply the help. This project allows Soroptimist clubs to work together to confront the needs of women and girls in countries far away from their own.

[Soroptimist Club Matching Project](#)

Soroptimist Club Recognition Projects

Soroptimists Celebrating Success!

The Soroptimist Celebrating Success! program recognizes successful club projects that improve the lives of women and girls and that promote Soroptimist as an organization with that mission. These awards recognize the best practices of Soroptimist clubs in each of the four areas of the SIA strategic plan: fundraising, membership, program and public awareness. Each region is eligible for one award in each of the four areas. The Soroptimist Board of Directors will select the top entry in each category from the region finalists. Entries are due to Soroptimist headquarters on or before **January 20, 2011**.

[Soroptimist Celebrating Success! Resources](#)

Soroptimist Club Awards

Each year, SIA recognizes the efforts of local clubs demonstrating a strong commitment to the Soroptimist mission and the Renaissance Campaign. This is SIA's chance to thank its members for working to improve the lives of women and girls, increasing membership, raising awareness of Soroptimist and making donations to support Soroptimist programs. Entries are due to SIA headquarters by June 1.

Other SIA Program Resources

Soroptimist White Papers

As a way to help club members become more educated about issues facing today's women and girls, Soroptimist provides white papers on various women and girl focused topics. The white papers are a summation of the most current research available and also provide resources for gathering more information. There are currently fourteen white papers available that address the following issues: health, violence against women and girls, work, trafficking, education, disasters, child and mail-order brides and women and poverty. In addition, a new resource is available to help club determine how best to utilize the white papers.

[Soroptimist White Papers](#)

Soroptimist Model Program Kits

To minimize research and development time needed to establish and maintain club projects, Soroptimist has developed a series of model program kits addressing issues facing today's women and girls. Model program kits are designed to provide guidance in planning and implementing projects by offering club members project ideas with proven methods and resources for achieving success. There are currently eight model program kits available that address the following issues: health, violence against women, mentoring and ideas for implementing one-day club projects.

[Soroptimist Model Program Kits](#)

General Information

The SIA program information and resources listed below can be found in the program section of the members' area of the SIA website.

- Program Calendar
- Program Impact Report
- Club Project Evaluation
- Frequently Asked Questions About the Soroptimist Mission
- Frequently Asked Questions about Advocacy
- Program Focus Report
- Effective Partnerships for Soroptimist Clubs
- United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
- Contact information for program council members and region chairs

[Program Overview – General Information Resources](#)

Soroptimist International Projects

Project Sierra: A Family and a Future

Project Sierra partners Soroptimist International with Hope and Homes for Children to transform the lives of some of the most deprived women and children in Sierra Leone by providing support to young mothers, assisting children living on the streets and working to assist the most vulnerable families in the country.

[Project Sierra - A Family And A Future](#)

December 10th Appeal

Every year, the Soroptimist International president appeals to all Soroptimists to make a small sacrifice and donate funds saved to a specially designated project that will assist women. The selection of the new 2010 December 10th Appeal will be announced soon.

For more information regarding SI projects, please visit the SI website at [Soroptimist International](#).