



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women®

*An international volunteer organization working to
improve the lives of women and girls, in local
communities and throughout the world.*

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF THE AMERICAS

2017-2018 Soroptimist Club Grants for Women and Girls

Summary

This year, 30 projects were selected for Soroptimist Club Grants for Women and Girls from a total of 38 proposals requesting \$179,571 in funding. A task force of Region Program Chairs reviewed the proposals and recommended funding levels for those selected. The following projects were selected and awarded a total of \$115,500.

The deadline to apply for the 2018-2019 [Soroptimist Club Grants for Women and Girls](#) will be March 1, 2018. The [application and guidelines](#) are now available.

2017-2018 Club Recipients

SI/Banff and Canmore (Western Canada Region): \$1,500, *Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls Conference*
SI/Banff and Canmore will use the grant to host a one day conference for middle and high school girls and their mothers to support career readiness. The day will include Dream It, Be It sessions as well as guest speakers discussing nutrition and cyber-bullying. Funds will be used to support advertising, food, and the purchase of notebooks and pens. Club members are responsible for recruiting participants, hosting the sessions, and executing the full-day event.

SI/Batangas Downtown (Philippines Region): \$3,500, *Sustainable Livelihood Project for Women in Barangay Alangilan*
SI/Batangas Downtown will use the grant to provide professional training in cosmetology, in conjunction with a local vocational school, for women relying solely on their husband's income. Funds will be used to provide starter kits and supplies for the women attending school. Club members will oversee the training and follow the progress of their students to ensure engagement and completion of the course.

SI/Ceres, CA (Sierra Pacific Region): \$1,000, *Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls*
SI/Ceres will use the grant to expand their current Dream It, Be It project from a one-day conference to a two-day conference. Funds will be used for printing, office supplies, food, and give away items. Club members will coordinate registration, secure speakers, and plan the logistics of the two-day conference.

SI/Corona, CA (Golden West Region): \$2,000, *STOP Trafficking: START Acting*
SI/Corona will use the grant to host a Human Trafficking awareness event where they will screen the movie SOLD, hold a panel interview, and provide opportunities for attendees to become involved with partnering organizations fighting trafficking. Funds will be used to cover the venue rental and screening rights for the showing of SOLD. Club members will market the event, recruit panel speakers, and plan and execute the logistics of the event.

SI/Courtenay, BC (Western Canada Region): \$1,000, *Dream It, Be It Mentoring Day*

SI/Courtenay will use the grant to host a Dream It, Be It one day conference for high school girls to support career readiness, dressing for success, and preparing for an interview. Funds will be used to rent the venue, provide food and give-aways, and cover printing costs. Club members will plan the logistics, host sessions, and set up for the day of the event.

SI/Cubatao (Brazil Region): \$8,500, *Sustainable Achievement*

SI/Cubatao will use the grant to provide skills training classes on producing clothing products, managing a small business, and financial literacy. Funds will be used to provide supplies and equipment for classes. Club members will plan the implementation of the skills training workshops in conjunction with their local business partners, and lead seminars on self-esteem and confidence.

SI/Davie, FL (Southern Region): \$500, *Stolen Girls...Stolen Dreams Human Trafficking Backpack Project*

SI/Davie will use the grant to provide backpacks with clothing, hygiene items, and food to local law enforcement who will distribute the backpacks to women rescued from human trafficking. Funds will be used to purchase items to fill the backpacks. Club members will secure the items, assemble the backpacks, and deliver to local law enforcement.

SI/Grand Erie, ON (Eastern Canada Region): \$3,000, *Refurbishing Unit at Gayenawahsra Next Step Housing-Six Nations*

SI/Grand Erie will use the grant to refurbish a transitional house for women and their children fleeing domestic violence. Funds will be used to provide household items and necessities. Club members will acquire the items, paint, and refurbish an entire unit.

SI/Hadano (Japan Higashi Region): \$1,000, *Gift of Love and Hope to Shelters*

SI/Hadano will use the grant to provide baby diapers and women's sanitary napkins to domestic violence shelters. Funds will be used to purchase the diapers and sanitary napkins. Club members will acquire the items and coordinate distribution to local shelters.

SI/Hancock County Area (Midwestern Region): \$500, *Women's Empowerment Emporium*

SI/Hancock County Area will use the grant to create a monthly shopping experience for women in need which allows them to select taxable items that meet their families' basic needs. Funds will be used to purchase items such as shampoo, conditioner, toilet paper, laundry soap, toothpaste, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, etc. Club members will shop for the items, set up the space, and help women as they shop at their monthly store.

SI/Hanford, CA (Sierra Pacific Region): \$8,000, *Amanda's House (Champions)*

SI/Hanford will use the grant to furnish a transitional living facility as part of their support for prevention of violence against women. Funds will be used to purchase household items such as beds, a washer/dryer set, and office supplies. Club members will acquire and assist with set up for household items, as well as facilitate ongoing workshops in career skills.

SI/Himeji Nishi (Japan Chuo Region): \$2,000, *Financial Support for Education*

SI/Himeji Nishi will use the grant to support girls in the foster care system who are pursuing education beyond high school. Funds will be used to cover expenses that are not covered by scholarships such as laptops and transportation. Club members will maintain contact with the selected recipients to provide mentoring and support until they graduate their programs.

SI/Igorots (Philippines Region): \$1,000, *Empowerment of Women and Girls through "Secure Livelihood in Sewing"*

SI/Igorots will use the grant to provide professional skills training for girls (and their mothers) who previously participated in their Dream It, Be It program. Funds will be used to purchase equipment and supplies for the courses. Club members will secure and set up the course materials and supervise the workshops.

SI/Jeju (Korea Region): \$6,000, *A Rose Moss' Dream*

SI/Jeju will use the grant to furnish their culture and career center for North Korean women defectors. Funds will be used to provide office supplies such as a printer, fax machine, and air conditioning. Club members will provide mentoring, cultural experiences, and career support to the women who use their center.

SI/Lages (Brazil Region): \$2,000, *Future Citizen*

SI/Lages will use the grant to improve the security of their local daycare and school that has supported working mothers in their community since 1963. Funds will be used to purchase construction materials for wall security and a one-room alarm system. Club members will be responsible for planning and monitoring the installation of the new security measures.

SI/Las Cruces, NM (Golden West Region): \$1,500, *Dream It, Be It Girls' Conference: Developing a Sustainable Annual City-Wide Program*

SI/Las Cruces will use the grant to expand their Dream It, Be It project to ensure it is sustainable for years to come. Funds will be used to acquire audio visual equipment such as a projector and microphone. Club members will plan and implement the project, secure speakers, and lead break-out sessions.

SI/Makati (Philippines Region): \$10,000, *Water Filtration System and Livelihood Skills Training for Women of Montesunting Carmen Bohol*

SI/Makati will use the grant to increase economic independence for women by providing skills training and entrepreneurial training courses. Funds will be used to secure equipment and supplies for classes along with a water filtration system to reduce barriers for women attending classes. Club members will monitor the project and assist with placing women in the appropriate class schedule.

SI/Moses Lake, WA (Northwestern Region): \$5,000, *Dream It, Be It Career Support for Girls*

SI/Moses Lake will use the grant to expand their current Dream It, Be It project to offer an additional one day conference in the spring and mentoring sessions in between the fall and spring events. Funds will be used for facility rental, insurance, and to cover printing costs. Club members will plan and execute the two conferences and oversee the mentoring sessions.

SI/Muroto (Japan Nishi Region): \$5,000, *Eliminate Violence Against Women and Support Independence of DV Victims*

Nine clubs of the Kochi Prefecture will use the grant to bring awareness to the community about the issue of domestic violence and support women at a domestic violence shelter who are returning to school. Funds will be used to create awareness materials about domestic violence and provide home necessities and textbooks for women at the shelter. Club members will distribute awareness materials and partner with a Women's Support Center to identify individuals who are returning to school.

SI/Okayama (Japan Nishi Region): \$10,000, *Project for Increasing the Rate of Women Getting Mammograms*

SI/Okayama will use the grant to increase the rate of women detecting breast cancer early by distributing educational materials about breast cancer and providing free mammograms to women in the community. Funds will be used to cover printing, public awareness materials, and mammogram costs.

SI/Oxnard, CA (Camino Real Region): \$2,500, *Soroptimist STOP Human Trafficking and Sexual Slavery Walk and Awareness Event*

Seven clubs in the Ventura and Santa Barbara counties will use the grant to host an awareness walk, panel discussion, and community outreach fair on the topic of human trafficking. Funds will be used to rent facilities, audio visual equipment, and for advertising materials. Club members will publicize, organize, and execute the event.

SI/Palawan (Philippines Region): \$7,000, *PWD Project Wellness*

SI/Palawan will use the grant to provide cosmetology training for women and girls with disabilities who have no means of income. Funds will be used to rent the workshop space and acquire training equipment. Club members will acquire the materials, set up the workspace, and organize and oversee the workshops.

SI/PNP Zamboanga Peninsula (Zampen) (Philippines Region): \$3,000, *Indigenous Women of Balabang Gulayon, Dipolog City Livelihood Program on Handicraft Making*

SI/PNP Zamboanga will use the grant to provide sustainable economic and social growth to indigenous women through skills training on handwoven crafts. Funds will be used to secure supplies, equipment, and building materials. In partnership with the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), club members will oversee the project to facilitate and assist in acquiring materials, training, and selling items.

SI/Porto Alegre (Brazil Region): \$10,000, *Cement and Lipstick Workshop*

SI/Porto Alegre will use the grant to provide a holistic training program to young women at-risk, providing the technical and social skills needed to enter the construction industry. Funds will be used to provide office supplies, secure promotional materials, and provide items for a graduation reception. Club members will oversee the project, offering social and entrepreneurial workshops while working in partnership with the non-profit, Women in Construction, to offer technical workshops.

SI/Rio Do Sul (Brazil Region): \$4,000, *Woman Citizen*

SI/Rio do Sul will use the grant to present a lecture series to vulnerable women about a number of topics including rights and protections for domestic violence victims, women's health issues, professional development opportunities, and succeeding in the workplace as a woman. Funds will be used to purchase technical supplies for the lectures such as the projector, screen, and microphone. Club members will plan and implement the project as well as provide lectures and secure additional speakers.

SI/Rio Negro (Brazil Region): \$10,000, *Free to Dream*

SI/Rio Negro will use the grant to open a resource center for victims of domestic violence in their local community. Funds will be used to outfit the building with electricity and install working restrooms. Club members have secured partnerships with multiple government entities and will coordinate the development of the center, from the beginning of construction to continued use by a multidisciplinary team providing services to local women.

SI/Tokyo-Sakura (Japan Higashi Region): \$1,000, *Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Students at Tokyo Metropolitan High Schools*

SI/Tokyo-Sakura will use the grant to host a one-day career support conference for underserved girls at a local high school. Funds will be used to secure the venue, purchase office supplies, and provide lunch for the participating students. Club members will plan the event and facilitate the sessions in small groups.

SI/Toyama (Japan Chuo Region): \$1,500, *Help Single Parents and their Children!*

SI/Toyama will use the grant to host panel-discussions and seminars for single mothers about parenting, careers, and financial and legal advice. Funds will be used to advertise the seminars and to secure a venue to host the lectures.

SI/Yamanashi (Japan Higashi Region): \$2,500, *Self-Reliance Support Project for DV Victims*

SI/Yamanashi will use the grant to assist women entering a domestic violence shelter with acquiring household items. Funds will be used to provide washing machines, vacuums, kitchen items, and other necessities. Club members will maintain a relationship with a local shelter to assess the needs of incoming survivors. They will provide donated items as well as acquire new items as needed.

SI/Yosakoi Kochi (Japan Nishi Region): \$1,000, *Dream It, Be It: Career Support Seminars for Female Junior High and High School Students*

SI/Yosakoi Kochi will use the grant to provide three Dream It, Be It seminars to secondary school girls living in rural areas who do not have easy access to career planning resources or female mentors. Funds will be used to secure the venue and provide printed materials. Club members will plan and prepare the seminars, host sessions, and secure a guest speaker.
