

Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc.®

**2023
2024**

Annual Report



SOROPTIMIST®

Investing in Dreams



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About Us

Our Mission

We are a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.

Our Vision

Women and girls have the resources and opportunities to reach their full potential and live their dreams.



We have an active and engaged membership with over 1,100 clubs across North America, Latin America and the Pacific Rim.

Our Core Values

Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc.® is committed to:

Gender Equality

Women and girls live free from discrimination.

Empowerment

Women and girls are free to act in their own best interests.

Education

Women and girls deserve to lead full and productive lives through access to education.

Diversity & Fellowship

Women from varied backgrounds and perspectives work together to improve the lives of women and girls.

2023-2024 Soroptimist Board of Directors



Bobbi Enderlin
2023-2024 President
California, USA



Ginger Cole
2023-2024 President-elect
California, USA



Sue Riney
2023-2024
Secretary/Treasurer
Washington, USA



Junko Ayabe
Fukuoka, Japan



**Gabrielle "Billie"
Calizo-Quimpo**
Aklan, Philippines



**Chin-Yun
Chen Cheng**
Taichung, Taiwan



Susan Gilbey
California, USA



Melanie Kenny
Saskatoon, Canada



Jung-mi Lim
Daejeon,
South Korea



Deborah Mackes
Virginia, USA



**Maria Odette Nassif
do Vol**
Ciudad Del Este,
Paraguay



**Maria Helena R.
dos Santos**
Canoas, Brazil



Mayumi Tsuji
Mie, Japan



Madoka Ushio
Hokkaido, Japan



Vivian Walczesky
Michigan, USA

To Our Members and Supporters

Since 1921, Soroptimist has been on a mission to help women and girls around the world realize their potential and live their dreams. When women are educated and have opportunities and choices, they uplift themselves, build healthier families, break the cycle of poverty, and improve their communities and the world.

Through our combined efforts, we are proudly pursuing our Big Goal of empowering half a million more women and girls by 2031! We are expanding our *Live Your Dream: Education & Training Awards for Women*[®]; mentoring even more girls through our *Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls*[®] program; and unlocking new pathways to empowerment through our Big Goal Accelerator Projects. During our recent 48th Biennial Convention in Bellevue, Washington, we celebrated our achievements, inspired one another and reaffirmed our commitment to making a lasting impact in the lives of women and girls.

Thanks to the dedicated work of our clubs and members, and the support of our generous donors and supporters, Soroptimist accomplished much this past year. We are proud to highlight our efforts in this report. Together, we're empowering women and girls to live fuller, more productive lives.

From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you!



Bobbi Enderlin
President



Ginger Cole
President-elect



Sue Riney
Secretary/Treasurer



Michelle Burnett
Executive Director/CEO

Progress Toward Our Big Goal

The Soroptimist Dream Programs—the *Live Your Dream: Education & Training Awards for Women®* and *Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls®*—help women and girls who face obstacles achieve economic empowerment.

Our years of experience have taught us that education is the key to unlocking the economic empowerment of the world's women and girls. When women and girls are educated, they have opportunity, choice and power to make healthy decisions for themselves and their families.

Thanks to your support, our program participants have the resources and opportunities they need to reach their full potential and live their dreams.



”

This award helped me take the stress off of my shoulders for a little while and focus on the goal of finishing school. I was able to finish my associate degree and I'm currently living my dream working in the operating room. I wanted to show my kids no matter what life throws at you, follow your dream and don't give up. Never let anything stand in the way.

Margaret, *Live Your Dream Awards* Recipient



Live Your Dream: Education & Training Awards for Women[®]

The Soroptimist *Live Your Dream Awards* program provides financial support to head-of-household women striving to enhance their economic status and create better lives for themselves and their families. Recipients may use the cash grants however they choose in support of their education goals—including for tuition, books, childcare and transportation. Since 1972, we have distributed over \$41 million in education awards to women in need.

2023-2024



\$3.1 million +

in education awards disbursed



2,269

inspiring women received an award



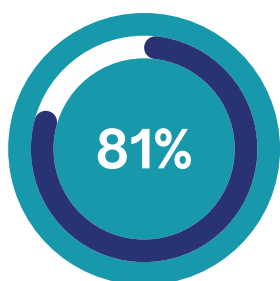
40,000 +

volunteer hours

Women Are Economically Empowered

Donations to the *Live Your Dream Awards* program empower women to make the best decisions for their circumstances. The program trusts women to use their award money in whatever way helps advance their educational goals. By giving women control over how they use their awards, it increases their self-confidence and motivates them to reach for their dreams. Thanks to these generous contributions, *Live Your Dream Awards* recipients illustrate that even a small financial boost can help women regain their footing and achieve their goals.

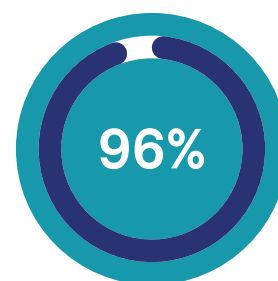
Live Your Dream Awards recipients report:



completed their education and improved their standard of living



increased their self-esteem



are now living in a safe environment—
of the 56% who are survivors of gender-based violence



I appreciate your support and encouragement to continue to achieve my academic goals. Your support gave me the greatest comfort and encouragement in my difficult time to help me overcome all my challenges.

Lichan, *Live Your Dream Awards* Recipient





Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls[®]

Our clubs deliver the *Dream It, Be It* program curriculum, which equips girls with the tools they need to achieve their education and career goals. It empowers them to break cycles of poverty, violence and abuse. Your contributions to this program help young girls stay healthy and safe, and reduces the number of women in crisis in the future.

2023-2024

23,738

girls participated across

15

countries and territories

— ” —
**This program
inspires and
excites us to
continue studying
and fight for our
dreams.**

Dream It, Be It Participant



On the Path to Success

Dream It, Be It teaches girls to set achievable career goals that align with their values. The program builds girls' confidence and resilience while introducing them to professional role models who help them explore careers. Thanks to your support, girls are set on a clear path toward realizing their dreams.

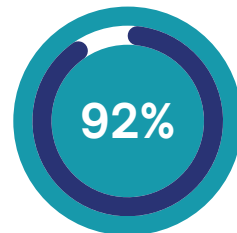
Dream It, Be It participants report:



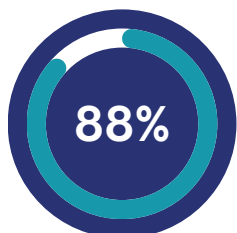
feel more confident about their future success



created achievable goals for their future



understand how their values can connect to possible careers



met professional role models



”

My favorite part of *Dream It, Be It* was the ‘Turning Failure into Success’ session.

It really spoke to me because it showed how being resilient and learning from setbacks can help us achieve our dreams.

Dream It, Be It Participant

Celebrating Big Goal Gains

We have been working since 2021 to reach our Big Goal of helping half a million more women and girls achieve their dreams. We do this through our two Dream Programs and our Big Goal Accelerator Projects that drive increased impact. Big Goal Accelerator Projects are offered by clubs and regions to increase access to education for women and girls facing obstacles.

2023-2024

2,269

women received a *Live Your Dream Award*

23,738

girls participated in *Dream It, Be It*

8,561

women and girls participated in Big Goal Accelerator Projects



SI/Delta, CA (Founder Region) provided cash awards to women and girls in their local community enrolled or in the process of applying for college, technical or vocational school, adult education, or classes to increase job skills.



SI/Saskatoon, SK, Canada (Western Canada Region) members organized a series of six 3-hour basic cooking classes offered to sexually exploited and trafficked women. Participants learned self-worth, confidence and skills to feed their families.

Progress Towards Our Big Goal Since 2021

93,085

women and girls were supported

18%

toward our half a million goal

The Membership Experience

Soroptimist is comprised of members in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guam, Japan, Mexico, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Puerto Rico, South Korea, Taiwan, United States, and Venezuela.

2023-2024

1,118 clubs**24,129** members

Member Spotlight



Jackie De Vries, SI/Vacaville, CA (Founder Region)

“I am so proud to be part of a movement that changes the lives and economic conditions of women and girls through education. This is a perfect fit for teachers and all women who know that education is the key to success and is the only thing that can create generational change! Like our awardees I too am Living My Dream in the knowledge that I am making a difference.”



Raquel Arreola Ruiz, SI/Tijuana Centro (Mexico/Centroamerica Region)

“Being a member for 40 years and having served as a past SIA president, Soroptimist holds a special place in my heart—it’s truly a part of my life! I’ve had the chance to meet so many wonderful members from all over the world, and I’m grateful to have formed such amazing friendships along the way.”



Elizabeth Mehlbrech, SI/Marysville, WA (Northwestern Region)

“It is incredible being part of such a life-changing organization like Soroptimist! Not only do we get to empower young women and girls in our communities, but we also are enhancing the lives of our own members in our club!”



Leadership Development and Volunteer Engagement

Soroptimist is committed to cultivating leadership skills that empower us to effectively deliver our programs, attract and retain members, grow our philanthropy, and build our brand recognition.

Strengthening Our Organization

Soroptimist Leadership Fellows Program

A certificate program providing valuable tools for participants to grow personally, professionally and in their volunteer work.

Leadership Round Table (LRT)

A training opportunity for members to learn the inner workings of Soroptimist and gain inspiration for their leadership journey.

Events and On-Demand Training

- #SIALeadToAcheive
- SIA Tech Talks Trainings
- 48th Biennial Convention
- Understanding Soroptimist Club Insurance
- Risk Management Live Q/A
- Soroptimist Club Grants Application Trainings
- *Live Your Dream Awards* Application Portal Training
- CSW NGO Parallel Event: Accelerating Gender Equality Through Education with SIA
- International Women's Day Tea Party

— ” —

... A worthwhile opportunity for anyone looking to grow and make a difference.

LRT Participant



Soroptimist 48th Biennial Convention

Thank you to all our speakers, talent and attendees for making our Soroptimist 48th Biennial Convention, in Bellevue, Washington, an event to remember! We are now even more energized and inspired to reach our Big Goal of investing in the dreams of half a million women and girls through access to education by 2031. We hope you enjoyed the fellowship, the learning opportunities and the convention experience.



Highlights



726

attendees



17

countries
represented



245

club delegates



\$65,078

of sponsor-donated cash
and products



More than **1,150**
handwritten letters sent to award
recipients across the federation

Memories for a Lifetime

Soroptimist 48th Biennial Convention

Wednesday: The opening ceremony, attendee orientations, friendship ceremony, flag presentation, and drumline performance energized everyone for an awesome convention ahead.

Thursday: Attendees got down to business with the general business meeting, a keynote speech from Sandra Garcia, and the “Local and Global Together” session with panelists from Soroptimist International and the United Nations.

Friday: Attendees celebrated our impact with inspiring *Live Your Dream Awards* stories from Brianna and Daryn, looked to our bright future during motivational workshops, and enjoyed lively “Pretty in Pink” and “Denim and Diamonds” dance parties late into the night!

Saturday: Keynote speaker and endurance racer Robyn Benincasa spoke on G.R.I.T., we danced a quick Zumba break, members strutted the red carpet to the Volunteer Recognition Gala, and we bid bittersweet farewell to friends until next time!



Save the Date



Inspiring Dreams
49th SOROPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL OF THE AMERICAS
Biennial Convention

INCHEON, SOUTH KOREA • JULY 22-25, 2026

Financial Performance

	FY23/24	FY22/23
Total Assets	\$17,566,409	\$17,295,828
Total Liabilities	2,659,250	2,398,047
Total Net Assets	14,907,159	14,897,781



Revenue	FY23/24	FY22/23
Annual Dues	2,227,090	2,299,614
Biennial Conventions and Meetings	1,074,165	27,691
Contributions	2,406,709	3,137,797*
Investment Return, Net	1,740,472	948,665
Sales and Other	50,406	52,154
Total Revenue	7,498,842	6,465,921



*FY22/23 includes Dream Big Campaign contributions of \$982,252. The Dream Big Campaign ended on August 31, 2023.



	FY23/24	FY22/23
Total Expenses*	7,489,464	5,241,348

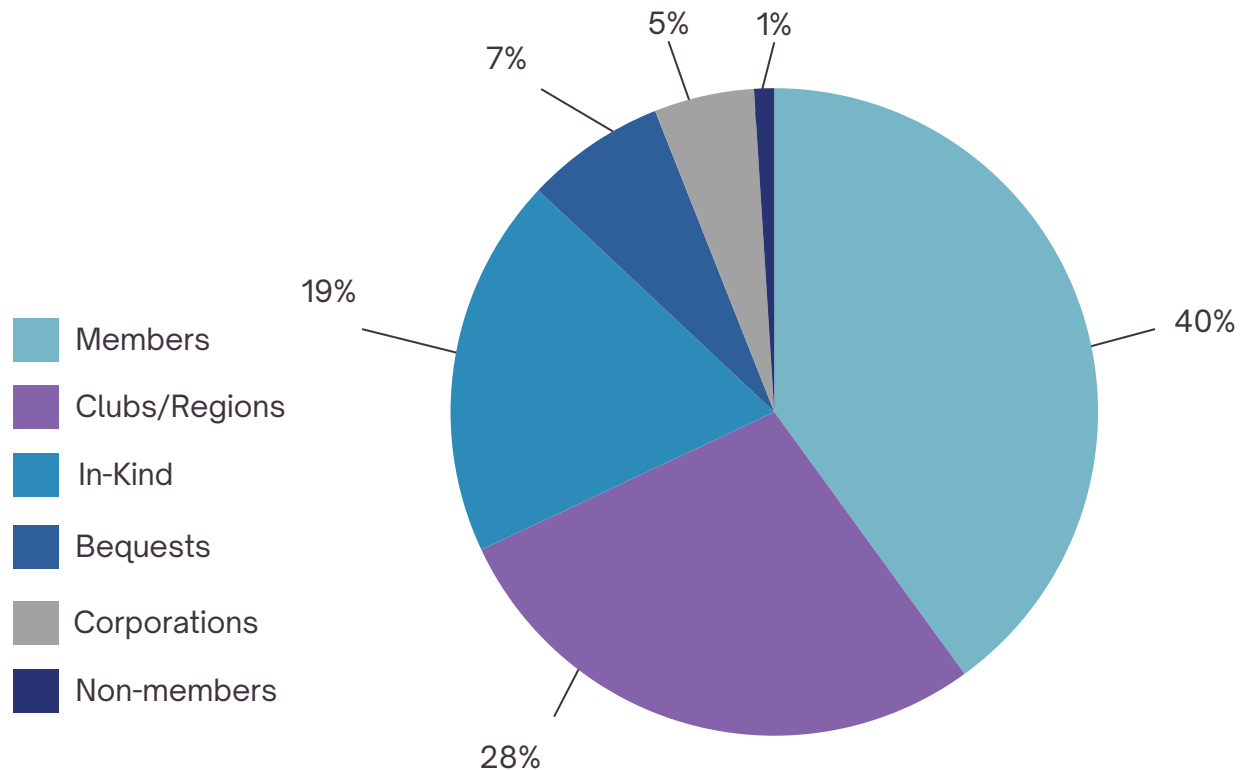
Change in net assets	9,378	1,224,573
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*See page 16 for further detail of expenses

Financial information above is taken from the audited financial statements for the fiscal years ended August 31, 2024 (FY23/24) and August 31, 2023 (FY22/23). SIA's Independent Auditors, CliftonLarsonAllen, have issued an opinion in both years that states the financial statements are presented fairly.

Who Supported Us This Year

Contributors: FY23/24

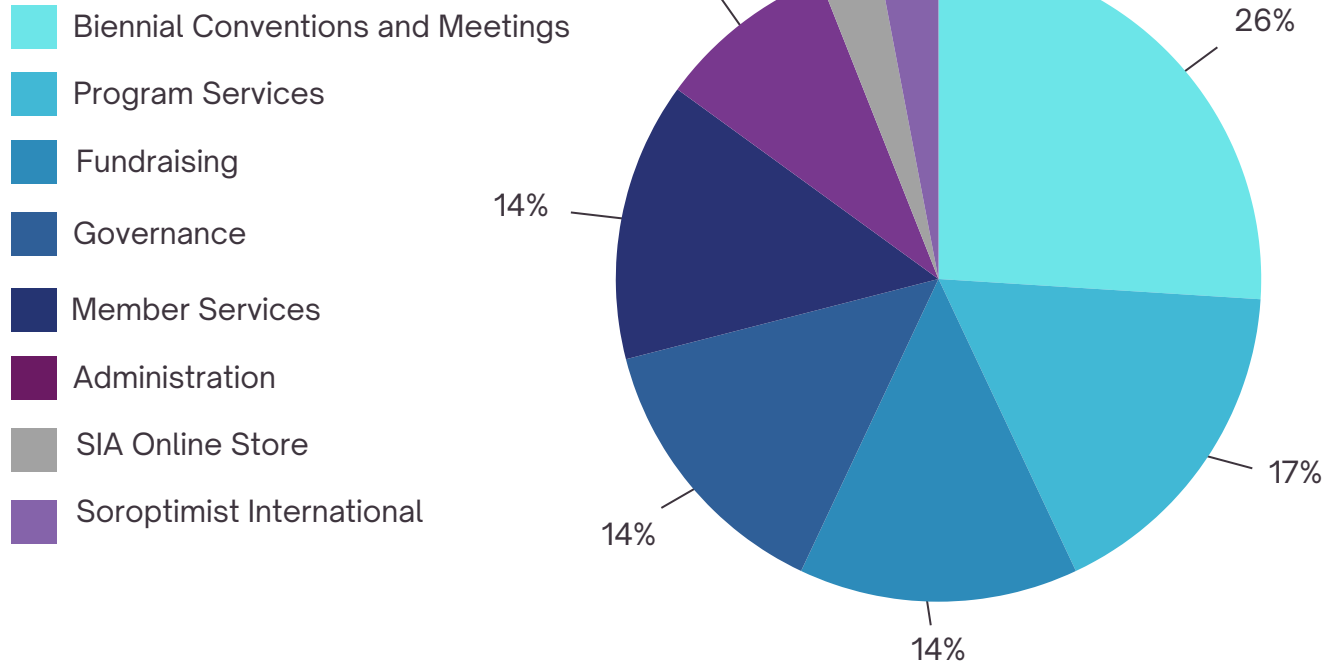


	FY23/24	FY22/23
Individual Members	\$955,712	\$1,425,170
Clubs/Regions*	674,623	937,514
In-Kind	484,508	379,380
Bequests	160,000	337,731
Corporations/Foundations	114,800	23,782
Non-members	17,066	34,220
Total	\$2,406,709	\$3,137,797

*Includes Club Giving and Founders Pennies

How We Use Our Operating Funds

Expense: FY23/24



	FY23/24	FY22/23
Biennial Conventions and Meetings	\$1,969,343	\$274,470
Program Services	1,259,948	962,780
Governance	1,068,183	896,753
Member Services	1,073,162	1,113,676
SIA Online Store	194,794	180,817
Soroptimist International	240,597	259,455
Fundraising	1,039,048	1,002,634
Administration	644,389	550,763
Total Expenses	\$7,489,464	\$5,241,348

Platinum
Transparency
2024

Candid.

Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc., is proud to be recognized with a Platinum Participation level by Candid's GuideStar Exchange, symbolizing Soroptimist's deep commitment to nonprofit transparency and accountability.

LiveYourDream.org

Soroptimist powers LiveYourDream.org, a digital action network. This online movement is dedicated to ensuring every woman and girl has the opportunity to reach her full potential and live her dream. Supporters take action to address some of the most serious challenges women and girls face today, such as gender-based violence and lack of access to quality education.

Our goal is to connect, mobilize and empower a passionate community of activists and volunteers to take action for women and girls.



2023-2024



\$441,000

received in Google Ad Grants



430,392

website views



24,000+

followers on social media



32,000

email subscribers



LIVEYOURDREAM.ORG
powered by SOROPTIMIST

Thank You to Our Partners

Soroptimist cause partners are part of a global movement to empower women and girls through access to education. Each of our valued partners directly supports our advocacy, action and awareness campaigns through mission-related marketing.

Our cause partner program benefits can include:

- Social media promotion
- Personalized blog post
- Feature in *Best for Women* e-newsletter
- Joint press statement
- Customized campaign
- Employee engagements

A special thank you to our 2023-2024 cause partners:

American Express
Blue Diamond Almonds
Boeing
Conair
Google Ad Grants
ICS Communications/Keir Milan
Komatsu
Law Office of Tom Buchenau
Lionbridge
Nick Stenson Beauty
Sol de Janeiro
State Farm
TD Bank
The Clara E. & John H. Ware Foundation
The Congressional Club and Museum Foundation

Partnership Opportunities

Want to learn more about
supporting us
through cause-related
marketing? Email
development@soroptimist.org
or scan the QR code below.



SIA Headquarters

Our staff is made up of professionals dedicated to the Soroptimist mission. We work in collaboration with our board, leaders, members, and supporters to help women and girls live their dreams.

Executive Leadership Team



Michelle Burnett
Executive Director/CEO



Kim Grossman, CPA
Chief Financial Officer



Ilesha D. Brown
Chief Impact
and Engagement
Officer



Kymberlie Adams
Chief Global
Marketing and
Development Officer



Scan the QR code to meet all SIA headquarters staff!

Headquarters Office

Located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, SIA Headquarters houses historical archives and provides many resources to assist Soroptimists with their volunteer work.



Reaching Higher: Over 100 Years of Helping Women and Girls

We have achieved so much together over the last 100 years but our work is far from over.

To prepare for the challenges and opportunities ahead, we are taking significant steps toward a technological transformation that will drive our growth and innovation for the next 100 years. By embracing new tools and strategies, we aim to enhance our impact and expand our reach, ensuring that our mission continues to resonate in an ever-changing world.

As we look ahead to the coming year, our focus will be on fostering inclusivity, strengthening collaboration and nurturing unity within our organization. By embracing these core values, we will fortify our foundation and propel our organization to new heights.



Together, we will reach higher for all women and girls, empowering them to succeed and thrive in every aspect of life. Let us continue to make a difference, one step at a time, as we shape a brighter future for generations to come!



Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc.®

A global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.



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