

RECORDED VERSION:

BGAP 101 Training Outline

Slide 1: title slide (START RECORDED CONTENT)

Welcome to our webinar! We're so excited to share information about our Big Goal Accelerator Projects with you.

SLIDE 2: Welcome! Introduce program staff

I'd like to introduce the Program Team from Soroptimist International of the Americas:

Ilesha Brown, Chief of Impact and Engagement.
Jackie Schrauger, Program Director
Abena Aboagye, Program Coordinator
Sarah Detwiler, Program Specialist

I wanted to let you know that this webinar is being simultaneously interpreted—meaning, as we speak in English, we have five interpreters who are simultaneously speaking in SIA's other languages so all of our members can access this information. If you are listening on the English channel, our pace may seem slow to you, but please remember that we need to be inclusive for all of our members.

Also, I would like to remind you that this webinar is being recorded and will be available on-demand for you to watch again or share with others.

SLIDE 3: Training Objectives

Our objectives for today's webinar are what we plan to accomplish.

Objectives:

- Members will be able to identify eligible Big Goal Accelerator Projects.
- Members will be able to identify how to change a project to be eligible as a Big Goal Accelerator Project.
- Members will be able to understand how to report their projects to SIA.

Please remember that this is a 101-beginner level webinar. It is designed to be an introduction to Big Goal Accelerator Projects.

SLIDE 4

So let's begin with the Big Goal. What is SIA's Big Goal?

Slide 5:

Our Big Goal is to invest in the dreams of half a million women and girls through access to education by 2031.

The counting of other club or region work towards our Big Goal is very new, and just launched in 2021. The SIA board of directors determined that club or region work other than the Dream Programs can count towards the Big Goal. However, not ALL club or region work will be eligible to count.

SLIDE 6: What are *Big Goal Accelerator Projects*?

So what are the Big Goal Accelerator Projects? Club or region work that **does** increase access to formal education for women and girls facing obstacles, but which is **not** the Dream Programs, is what should be reported as Big Goal Accelerator Projects. Typically, these projects are scholarships, classes, or providing required items for education or work.

SLIDE 7: Eligibility of project

To be eligible, club and region work must meet all five of the following criteria:

1. Work only with women and/or girls who are facing obstacles
2. Provide access to formal education or economic empowerment
3. Ultimately has the goal of leading to economic empowerment
4. Be a Soroptimist-led hands-on project
5. Be reported to SIA through the official reporting link

SLIDE 8: Women and girls facing OBSTACLES---Examples

Let's go through each of these eligibility sections.

Women and girls facing obstacles to their success is our target population.

These are just some examples of the obstacles that can make accessing education more difficult for a woman or girl:

- Poverty
- Gendered violence
- Racism
- Teen pregnancy
- Being a foster care youth
- Single parenting
- Substance abuse disorder

You can also write in other obstacles faced in the project reporting form if there is an obstacle not captured by the form. Please do not duplicate the answer choices provided when you report a project. For example, if your club provides a scholarship for low-income girls, select "poverty"—there is no need to write "low income" in the Other box.

SLIDE 9: NOT Eligible

While we are talking about our target populations, I would like to note that projects that are reaching girls who have already participated in Dream It, Be It or women who have already received a Live Your Dream Award are **not eligible**. Why?

Those women and girls have already been counted through the reporting processes for those programs. Our Big Goal is to invest in the dreams of a half a million women and girls through access to education. Our Big Goal is about counting individuals, not projects. We do not want to double count those women and girls if we can help it, so we don't want clubs to double report.

We know that in some regions, like the Philippines, very large Dream It, Be It projects are common and it could be hard to know exactly who participated—please just do your best to not double count women or girls when reporting projects.

SLIDE 10:

It is also important that the project itself be focused on access to FORMAL education or economic empowerment (like employment or building job skills). Many clubs host educational activities but those are not the same as providing access to formal education or economic empowerment.

Hosting sessions on things that are helpful for women and girls to know about, like trafficking, relationship violence, or other topics does not increase their access to formal education—it increases their awareness of those specific topics.

There are many projects that help women and girls but are not focused on access to education. For example, sponsoring mammograms for women who cannot afford them is a great way to support health in your community, but it is not access to education. Therefore, it cannot count as a Big Goal Accelerator Project.

SLIDE 11:

Broad categories of eligible projects include the following:

- Scholarships or cash awards
- Classes focused on education attainment or job skills (like interviewing skills, skills needed for specific jobs, or how to apply for financial aid)
- Providing items that remove a clear obstacle to work or school—like transportation, computers, uniform pieces needed for work or school.

These are kinds of club work that directly increase access to education, and that's why they're eligible.

SLIDE 12: Soroptimist Led Project

Another component of eligible Big Goal Accelerator Projects is that they must be Soroptimist led projects. What does this mean?

Donating to another organization is not a Soroptimist led project. That donation will help further the organization's mission, not Soroptimist's, and you cannot guarantee how your donation will be used.

SLIDE 13: Partnership

Partnership with another organization can be a grey area, but usually is a great way to get access to women and girls who will benefit from increased access to education.

Slide 14: More Partnership

Some examples of great partnerships that clubs have reported to us include:

- Connecting with a local college to find eligible scholarship applicants
- Working with a shelter to identify women who need specific items for work or school (like laptops, bus passes, specific clothing items) and providing those items to them
- Working with a local high school with a low-income population to directly provide them with menstruation products so that periods aren't an obstacle to schooling

SLIDE 15: Eligibility Summary

So to summarize, eligibility is made up of three big components:

- It's a Soroptimist-led project
- It's the right population (women and girls facing obstacles to their success, who have NOT already been counted under Dream It, Be It or the Live Your Dream Awards)
- It's the right activity (the goal is increasing access to education and/or economic empowerment)

Let's go through some more examples of common club projects that are not eligible. The following kinds of projects are not eligible:

- Donating money to another organization (even if it's an educational program)
- Beautification projects like planting trees or refurbishing a space (even if it's a school)
- Health support projects
- Awareness projects about any topic
- Providing items that aren't specifically needed for education access or work readiness like gifts for children or beauty products

Please note—just because SIA staff are telling you a project is not eligible does not mean we are saying the project doesn't matter or help someone. We are just reinforcing the boundaries of eligibility.

If you are not sure if a project is eligible, email us program@soroptimist.org! We are always happy to discuss or to help find ways to make a project eligible.

SLIDE 16: From ineligible to eligible

We will now review some examples of projects that are NOT eligible and then how they can become eligible with some small tweaks.

These are just examples—this is not saying you can only do these kinds of projects but just some examples of how to take work that might not be eligible and tweak it so it can count for our Big Goal.

SLIDE 17: Example - Scholarships

- Giving scholarships or educational awards for women or girls based on only on academic performance or community service hours—not eligible, since it’s not considering their obstacles in its requirements so a girl from a high-income family may be receiving the award
- Giving scholarships or educational awards for women who face obstacles to access education (but who are not eligible for Live Your Dream Award)—ELIGIBLE! This is one of the most common Big Goal Accelerator Projects, and an easy one to start. If you club receives applicants for the Live Your Dream Award who are not fully eligible, you can give them a scholarship, give it a fun title, and report it as a Big Goal Accelerator Project.

SLIDE 18: Example – Girls Exiting Foster Care

- Providing girls exiting foster care with journals and novels—while lovely and something I’m sure that they would appreciate, this is not eligible because it does not have a focus on access to formal education or economic empowerment
- Providing girls exiting foster care with computers and funds for textbooks so they can attend college—This is a perfectly eligible project!

SLIDE 19: Example – Providing Classes

- Providing classes that don’t focus on skills for education or employment (such as self-defense or trafficking awareness)—This would not be eligible. These projects fall into the educational, but not actual formal education access category.
- Providing job training classes for women who have experienced gender-based violence—This would be eligible, since you’re providing women with obstacles to their success with training that will help them access economic empowerment

SLIDE 20: Example – Donating Items

- Donating self-care items to a women’s shelter like shampoo or body wash—This would not be eligible, although I’m sure it is appreciated, because it does not increase access to education.
- Donating nurse uniforms to women residing in a shelter who need them so they can go to work or a training program—This project is eligible, because it focuses on women with obstacles to their success and you’re providing them with required items so that they can pursue education or work.

SLIDE 21: Examples of Projects

Let’s take a look at some real-life club projects that are inspiring!

SI/Sante Fe Springs is helping women in Custody complete their GEDs.

Their club is funding scholarships for High School Equivalency Diploma (GED) exam for incarcerated Women in Transition from Custody to Community through a Reentry Program.

These women may have their sentence reduced by six months by successfully completing their GED tests, and they’ll have more education when they exit incarceration.

SLIDE 22: Computers

SI/Asuncion in America del Sur offered basic computer skills classes to 12 women --these skills gave them more tools for job application and further education.

SLIDE 23: Sewing

In Brazil Region, SI rio negro offered a project for women who have experienced domestic violence with a focus on professional qualifications, income generation, empowerment, and creating autonomy through offering meaningful training.

SLIDE 24: Cooking

SI David in the Mexico CentroAmerica region offered 16 women cooking classes to help them find work in restaurants, hospitality, or to launch their own culinary business. Along with the classes, the women earned a certification that will help them find employment.

SLIDE 25: Additional Scholarship

In Japan Minami Region, SI Kumamoto offered the Take One Step program which provides financial support to the children of single mothers who are planning to go on to higher education, but who have financial concerns to enable them to get an education. In addition, for the single mothers themselves, the club provides financial support for career advancement and congratulatory money after obtaining their qualifications.

SLIDE 26: Highschool Award

SI Oak Harbor in the Northwestern Region offers the Live Your Dream Opportunity, which is a High School Scholarship that is given to high school girls that have overcome challenging life circumstances to persevere to obtain their dreams of high school graduation and admission to college or trade school. Last year, they awarded 4 scholarships totaling \$8000.

SLIDE 27: Foster supplies

Finally, we have SI Valencia in Camino Real Region with their Fostering Youth Independence Program. They raised funds and tangible donations to support 30 girls who have aged out of the foster system and were starting college. They also sponsored a live event where they were gifted a brand new premium backpack to fill with school supplies and toiletries from our free store, which enabled the girls to begin college loaded up with supplies they needed.

SLIDE 28: Reporting—review reporting process/deadlines

- June 30th is the annual deadline for any projects hosted that club year (For example, July 1st, 2022 to June 30th, 2023)
- Online reports only accepted—no PDFs, emailed, or otherwise submitted reports are accepted

SLIDE 29: Reporting Reminders

- Review the Big Goal Accelerator Projects reporting example to see the questions in advance to help you gather the information you need to submit
- You can edit your report after you submit, and you will receive a copy of your report.
- Do NOT report Dream It, Be It or Live Your Dream Awards work through this form—that information is already captured in other reporting processes, and your report will be

deleted from the Big Goal Accelerator Project report. Those women and girls have already been counted through our existing reporting processes.

SLIDE 30: Want to Reach More Women and Girls?

While we all want to reach our Big Goal of investing in the dreams of half a million women and girls through access to education, I want to be clear; SIA is NOT telling you that you need to start a whole new project! If your club is working hard on the Live Your Dream Awards and Dream It, Be It and feels financially stretched, please do not think we are asking you to launch a whole new program.

However, IF your club has an eligible project, OR if you have a project that could be easily changed to be eligible, we certainly want you to report your work to us so it can be counted for the Big Goal! Additionally, if your club is already delivering the Dream Programs and you have capacity for more, consider adding a new project that is Big Goal eligible.

SLIDE 31 How to reach more women and girls?

Some ways to reach more women and girls through Big Goal Accelerator Projects are;

- Redirect funding away from projects that are not aligned with the Big Goal so your club can focus on your resources.
- Connect with new community partners and to recruit applicants for scholarships, participants for classes, or identify women who need specific items for their education or work.
- Connect with local businesses who may want to financially sponsor an award or a project. Could a local business be the one that helps you give scholarships to women who don't quite qualify for a Live Your Dream Award? Or perhaps they can donate items that women and girls need to attend school, such as uniform pieces or computers for your club to distribute?

SLIDE 32: SCREENSHOTS Resources on SIA's website

You can find the Big Goal Accelerator Project resources on our website.

DROP IN THE CHAT: #BookmarkIt <https://www.soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/program-resources/big-goal-accelerator-projects.html>

On the English pages,

Under the title: Resources, you will find the "What Counts Handout" and the "Report Examples" in each language.

The "What Counts for the Big Goal Accelerator Projects Handout" is a great overview of the Big Goal Accelerator Projects and provides a summary of what you are learning here today.

The "Big Goal Accelerator Project - Report Examples" provides instructions on filling out the online reporting form.

Here's a demo of where to find the resources on our website...

SLIDE 33: VIDEO Resources on SIA's website

You can also access these resources by going to the translated language page by language.

We strongly recommend bookmarking the translated resources pages in your language so you can find these resources later with ease.

DROP IN THE CHAT: #BookmarkIt <https://www.soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/federation-information/translated-resources/index.html>

SLIDE 34: VIDEO Online Reporting Form on Website

Select "For Clubs and Members" on the blue menu bar.

Next Select "Program Resources"

Scroll down until you see the box labeled Big Goal Accelerator Projects

Select "Learn More"

Scroll down and you will find resources in all languages.

After reviewing these resources to help you prepare the report, you can access the online report.

Under "Report your project!" - select "Submit Your Report Online". A new window will open with the online reporting form.

DROP IN THE CHAT: #BookmarkIt <https://www.soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/program-resources/big-goal-accelerator-projects.html>

SLIDE 35: Questions?

We will now have a live question and answer portion with our remaining time.

We have some guidelines for our question-and-answer section.

Please keep your questions focused on Big Goal Accelerator Projects.

Please type all questions in all languages in the Q&A box.

We will do our best to translate all questions and respond, so all voices are heard.
And of course, please keep it Soroptimist friendly!
Please remember, we may not be able to address everything tonight.

If you have a question that is very specific to your club, or if we do not have time to address your question, please email us program@soroptimist.org and we will be happy to help!