

## ATTENDEES

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Lori Blair – SIA Senior Director of Program Services

Anna Kabrich – SIA Program Coordinator

## MINUTES

### Big Goal

Main webpage - <https://www.soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/federation-information/sias-big-goal/index.html>

- Take One Step Update
  - Short steps clubs can take to increase our collective impact
  - Resources located here: <https://www.soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/federation-information/sias-big-goal/take-one-step.html>



Have you heard anything from clubs about implementing these small actions from Take One Step?

Not yet, but maybe we'll hear feedback at our region conference.

Lori – If you have the opportunity, please share with your clubs and members that these bite-size steps show up in the [Soroptimist Summary](#) every month. They are not all Program related, so may show under different sections. I ask that you and clubs in your region keep an eye out for those each month.

Lori - We're also talking about whether we should continue the Take One Step campaign for another year. People might be more aware of the steps in a second year. Does anyone have an opinion about continuing it for another year?

Kris – I think it's great, because it's giving clubs one thing to focus and work on. We always share it on our Founder Region Facebook page, so clubs are definitely seeing it. I love it, it's a great easy campaign, delivered one piece at a time. I absolutely think we should continue it for another year. When the Soroptimist Summary comes out, I take little one piece messages from it and post it to the Region Facebook Page. I think we need to keep drilling it into the membership. One piece at a time makes a bigger impact than putting it all out at once.

Region Chair Webpages: <https://www.soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/region-chair-resources/index.html>

Lori – I encourage everyone to follow Kris’s lead and share them on your Facebook and web pages as well. It’s helpful for clubs to see it in multiple places.

- Working as One
  - Strategic planning tool for clubs
  - Resources located here: <https://www.soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/federation-information/sias-big-goal/working-as-one.html>
- Communicating Your Change
  - Communication packet with resources, tips, and tools to help guide club and region communications with community partners if they’re making changes to the way they work locally
  - Resources located here: <https://www.soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/federation-information/sias-big-goal/2021-2031-big-goal.html>

Lori - Please promote these tools in your region at your conferences and on your website and Facebook.

Please bring one example to share of a club in your region that has made a change in the way they work to serve more women and girls through the Dream Programs.

Angie – We’re going to have our region conference next month and we’re going to have breakout sessions, so I’ll be able to talk with club Program Chairs.

Ginny – We’re also in the same boat, we have our conference coming up and we have breakout sessions. We’ve had flyers professionally printed, so a lot of the messaging will be coming out at our spring conference.

Tana (via email) – At the Region level we began with asking clubs to make contact with Shelters and Programs that service women in need. SI Hanford has worked with three programs in particular, BTC-Business Technology Center who work with students to bring them up to a skill set which either prepares them to enter into the work force or to re-enter school at a college or vocational school. In addition, they have worked with two women’s shelters, Amanda’s House and Hanna’s House. They have granted awards to candidates from each of these programs over the past three years. I think another unique idea that SI Visalia and SI Hanford promote is an award dinner that encompasses a variety of awards that are given to female candidates. These awards can include community recognition for women who help other women, high school scholarships and/or volunteer in action awards. This gives each community public awareness as multiple guests attend in support of the recipient. SI Hanford hosted their event this past week with 134 guests in attendance. SI Visalia hosted their dinner last month and also had upwards of 75 in attendance.

Lori – Maybe it would be more effective to discuss this at our next call in June – after your region conferences. Everyone agreed.

From SIAHQ, we have two surveys coming out to clubs soon. The first is a survey to what we’re calling Model Clubs. These are clubs who have done everything on the SIA club roadmap, so we are surveying them to find out their secret to success!

Region Chair Webpages: <https://www.soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/region-chair-resources/index.html>

Then we also have a wider survey to club presidents about the Take One Step campaign to ask what tools they've used and how it's had an impact on their work.

At your region conferences, in addition to giving this messaging and collecting information, please also let club presidents know that these surveys are coming out so we can get some great responses and share them with others.

### Live Your Dream Award

- Processing region award packets

Lori – Please thank your region Live Your Dream Awards chairs for submitting their region reporting. It's such a critical part of our work, and is a lot of work for them. We have been and will be thanking the Region Live Your Dream Awards Chairs, but if you could thank them as well, that'd be great!

- Updating award portal based on feedback received
- Expanding the portal to other markets (survey going to club chairs, and past recipients)

Lori – We are surveying other regions to determine where we will expand the portal to next. It will be challenging to launch the portal in another country that doesn't speak English, but it is a vital part of our strategy to reach more women. We will hopefully roll out the portal in another country in club year 2020-2021.

Darcy – Is there any way we can get the district chairs on the portal?

Anna – Unfortunately, since we don't have a mechanism for collecting and storing district information, we can't currently accommodate districts on the portal. We have no way of knowing which clubs belong to specific districts in each region. However, this is something that we know regions are indicating a desire for, so we will add it to our list of feedback to consider when making updates for next year.

Alice – We had difficulty. Some clubs aren't computer literate, so there's a disconnect between members who are interested in doing the Live Your Dream Awards and who can actually use a computer. We have concerns that applicants are unable to apply now that it is online, since they don't have access to the internet or a computer.

Lori – How are these applicants applying for colleges?

Alice – They're going to the school and applying in person or using the computers there. But they can't spend more time there away from their families.

Lori – So they're not applying for other awards and scholarships online? I'm curious, if they don't have access to a computer or internet, how do they use a PDF form?

Alice - They can download and edit a PDF. They might have a computer, but not access to the internet. We've found that the PDF's are the best option.

Lori – What is everyone else’s experience?

Pam – I know that the majority of our applications come from women completing it when they’re at school, a lot of them via email.

Kris – We’ve just had one or two clubs that maybe had to redirect the chair to someone was computer literate and could take on the responsibility of the portal.

Lori – Do you have a suggestion of how to address these issues?

Alice – The PDF application process was working quite well – people would submit their applications via PDF. Clubs were not happy logging into the portal and had trouble communicating with applicants, going back and forth seemed to take weeks, not days.

Lori – One of the reason we went down this route was because of all the problems involved with PDFs – the most common was receiving applications blank. But the issues of what went wrong for clubs chairs with the portal are less concerning, there’s always going to be a learning curve. But I don’t want the situation to be where women who want to apply for award cannot – and members want to engage but cannot.

Alice – North Atlantic Region surveyed our members about the portal and send it to headquarters.

Lori – I’ll have to follow up, because I haven’t received that information.

Tana (via email) – The use of the new technology is helpful to the masses, and I think it outweighs the few. I think in time it will become easier. I am not tech savvy, but in the long run I think it was beneficial. This was the first year we have had all clubs reporting prior to the deadline and I attribute that to the new process.

- Privacy Update

Lori – We know we’re collecting sensitive information about our Live Your Dream Awards recipients and we know it’s important to ensure the information is properly stored and shared. This would be an easier task if each country had their own privacy laws, but as with US and Canada, each state/province has their own privacy laws. We’re trying to find the places with the strictest privacy laws and adhere to those so we’re compliant with all privacy laws. Engaging lawyers in this is costly. We know California is coming out with a new data privacy law. So just an FYI, we’re on it. You may see changes in language in documents to comply with privacy laws. This will eventually trickle down to regions and clubs because we will have to advise all of them about how to comply with these privacy laws.

Kris – On the media consent form, there are a lot of choices as to how recipients want their names listed. Can you add one more choice in there to have their full name shared only on the region awards program? We had several applicants that chose different permissions and we’ve had to contact them again to ask if we can use their full name in the conference program. All of them who previously said they wanted parts of their name then consented to using their whole name in the program.

Lori – My first thought is if we can guarantee that no one outside of the membership would see their full name. Typically, a woman would select to use her first name only for safety reasons, so I'm wondering if you can ensure that people at the copy center, or outside of the attendees of the awards reception would not see it.

Kris – My thought is it's not going to be shared online at all. The program is only given to attendees at conference, so their name is not going to be in the newspaper.

Lori – So are you careful to make sure that your members aren't going to go online and post their names and maybe a copy of the program?

Kris – We take extra precautions to ensure that women's wishes are honored. One recipient does not want to be photographed, so we are announcing that and ensuring members know to honor that request.

Lori – Let me think on it and talk with are communications team and get back to you!

*Post-call follow up:* If a woman has concerns about using her last name, her request should be honored and her full name should not be included in the region program. Putting that information in the region conference program increases the likelihood that it will appear somewhere else, even if accidental. If it is a matter of consistency in the region program, we suggest using only the first name (or provided pseudonym) of all recipients.

#### Dream It, Be It

- Report of participating clubs went to region chairs

All region chairs got their initial reports of which clubs have reported online. Final club reports are due 6/1/2019.

Angie – On the report you sent to Dream It, Be It chairs, did you copy program chairs?

Lori – Yes, but I will resend that report to you!

- Curriculum update

Lori – I'm unsure whether updating the curriculum will happen this year or next year because Nora is no longer with us. We will keep you updated!

#### Region conferences

- Any questions?
- Any support needed?
- Who is planning to present the power point we provided?

Alice – We'll present the power point at our leadership conference in August.

Pam – We plan to present it at fall meetings in October.

Region Chair Webpages: <https://www.soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/region-chair-resources/index.html>

Kris – We'll present it at district meetings in October.

Kathy – We're doing the presentation at spring conference.

Angie – We're presenting it at spring conference.

Lori - For those giving it in October – do you edit it?

We edit it and add all of our region statistics for the year.

Alice – We will edit it. We set our agendas for spring conference before the board meeting in January, so there was no place to put another report in, we felt it was most appropriate to present in the fall.

Kris – I think much of this information will be presented by the official visitor, so another presentation will be redundant.

Lori – The Official Visitor speech is often more celebratory and inspiring rather than focused on specific topics. We see the Official Visitors speech before creating our presentation, so work hard to make sure it's not repetitive.

Our region conference is in April, and we're preparing a lot by using SIA presentations.

**• Anybody planning anything new and different for program at their conference?**

Kris – We're doing a survival bag assembly project for trafficking. Clubs are bringing supplies, we're assembling them, and clubs can take some bags back to their communities.

Jennifer – I'll be doing the program presentation, which I'm looking forward to hopefully help clubs see the Dream Programs a bit differently. We're working out the details, but our Official Visitor might do a session (possibly on Dream It, Be It) going in depth about how to revamp the program and ensure clubs are doing what we want them to be doing. For fundraising, we're doing an event on Friday night and having a photo booth to collect some good photos and stories about why members join so our region and clubs.

Tana (via email) – Sierra Pacific region will use the power point as provided, with a few minor edits. (Making it my own) It will be part of the Business session since we don't have a lot on the agenda. In addition, what we have done over the past few years at our LYD Awards luncheon is to have a past LYD recipient share with us how the award has helped them. This goes over well with the new recipients who are also present. Usually they will connect with each other after the ceremony and give encouragement and appreciation to each other.

At conference Governor Gail will host a Laurel Society private reception, in appreciation of their support. She is having a silent auction to raise funds for the Region Beyond the Cash Award.

**Any questions for headquarters or others?**

Grace – My governor asked that I work on a presentation regarding leadership development. Are there resources on the SIA website?

Lori – Yes, I'll send you the link and also put you in touch with Nicole Simmons who supports clubs and regions in leadership development.

Program Chair Call  
9:00am EST  
April 2, 2019

Mark your calendar!

Next Program Chair call: Tuesday June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 || 9:00am EDT