

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF THE AMERICAS

Recruitment Tip: Friends and Family—Untapped Prospects

Do you know someone who would make a great Soroptimist member? Of course you do! So what's been holding you back from asking her if she'd like to join your club? If you're waiting for her to tell you that she's interested, you may end up waiting forever. Even someone who is excited about Soroptimist and who is usually forthcoming may hesitate to ask you about joining the club, especially if she isn't familiar with membership [benefits](#) and responsibilities, dues information, and other potential "barriers to entry." As a current member, it's up to you to take initiative, share the important information about your club, and ASK a friend or family member to join you!

Soroptimist members all around the world have had wonderful and meaningful experiences volunteering alongside their friends and family members. Chances are the people in your circle of family and friends share many of the same values you do, and would be a great match for our mission of improving the lives of women and girls! So challenge yourself to invite someone from your circle to your next club meeting or event.

Are you still hesitant about asking these untapped prospects? Read what a few members have to say about sharing their Soroptimist experiences with loved ones:

Mary Therese "Maita" Lu of SI/Paranaque Philippines on her family legacy in Soroptimist:

"I joined because I saw the commitment my mother and grandmother had for women and children. It felt natural to follow in their footsteps."

Debra Dematteis-Miller of SI/Corona, CA describing pride for her daughter's Soroptimist leadership:

"Personally, I have gotten to see my daughter in a totally different realm; she decided to take the chair position of our annual Dreams and Decisions workshop this year. She had been one of the first attendees of this program many years ago...I was so happy to take the back seat on this project as she was/is totally capable of leading a very diverse and energetic group of women. It was such a wonderful proud day for this mom to see her daughter so comfortable in front of 250 young girls. I can't even explain my pride."

Susan and Margaret Gilbey, sisters of SI/Westminster, CA and SI/Toronto, Canada:

"Aside from it giving us one more thing in common, it has given us the chance to travel to a number of places together. In addition, we've both developed friendships with members in clubs and regions that we would never have met. We learn from each other's Regions, and bring fresh ideas back home, which would normally have stayed within the other Region."

Michele Memmot SI/Manhattan Beach, CA on her three daughters:

"It is so much fun to do these things together. I still have a chance to teach them things...not as a mother but as an experienced volunteer/fundraiser. I learn far more from them though."