



## **SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF SARATOGA COUNTY KICKS-OFF COMMUNITY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN IN CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL CLUB'S 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY**

*Soroptimist means “best for women”;  
our work improves the lives of women and girls locally and globally.*

Saratoga Springs, N.Y. (January 7, 2021) – Soroptimist International of Saratoga County (SISC), a chapter of Soroptimist International of the Americas (SIA), today commences a ten-month community awareness campaign in celebration of the national club’s 100-year anniversary, falling on October 3, 2021. Soroptimist means “best for women”. We are a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training needed to achieve economic empowerment. In Saratoga, SISC has been active since 1979, and actively supports service projects including:

- **Project Hope and Power** – the club’s keystone educational workshop designed to guide domestic violence survivors towards financial independence.
- **Dream It, Be It** - career support for girls in secondary school by providing access to professional role models, career education and the resources to set and achieve goals, overcome obstacles and move forward after setbacks or failures.

The 100-year anniversary theme, “Bright Past, Brilliant Future”, perfectly captures the respect for and memory of incredible women who had the foresight and courage to become Soroptimists and pursue the best for women, and those who carry on the tradition today. Drawing attention to the club’s impact, SISC will showcase its work in locally and globally – with the intent of strengthening bonds with our community’s businesses, professionals, and those who can benefit from our programming.

“Soroptimist encapsulates women at their best, working to help other women be their best,” said Sandra Reulet, president of Soroptimist Internal of Saratoga County. “The international club is 160,000 members strong – almost 100 of us in SISC representing and supporting Saratoga County. Our ten-month awareness campaign is designed to showcase all the work we do on behalf of the women and girls right here in Saratoga – and how you, our supportive community, can share in our success.”

In January, SISC presents “This is Us: Soroptimist”, showcasing the history of the organization in our local community – from the roots of the club in 1979. SISC’s first president, Sondra Silverhart, remarks, “Our first goal was to set up a two-bedroom apartment for women experiencing domestic violence. As a newly formed group of motivated women, we raised \$2,500, a lot of money in those days. Assisting women experiencing domestic violence remains a goal today in this Chapter.” The full interview is available at [https://youtu.be/2Gpod-u\\_hUk](https://youtu.be/2Gpod-u_hUk).

We encourage our community to follow our campaign to learn more about our programming and support – [www.soroptimistsaratoga.org](http://www.soroptimistsaratoga.org); Facebook: @SoroptimistofSaratogaCounty; Instagram: @SoroptimistSaratoga; [soroptimistsaratoga@gmail.com](mailto:soroptimistsaratoga@gmail.com).

### **About Soroptimist International of Saratoga County**

Our vision: women and girls have the resources and opportunities to reach their full potential and live their dreams.

Soroptimist means “best for women”. Soroptimist International of Saratoga County is the local branch of the global organization Soroptimist International. Together, we unite to fundraise, mentor and connect - acting and educating our local and global communities.

Annually, SISC has provides approximately \$40,000 annually to improve the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world. The group partners with Wellspring (formally the Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Services of Saratoga County) to support and empower women who have experienced domestic abuse through the showcase project, “Hope and Power”.

Learn more about supporting or becoming a member at [www.soroptimistsaratoga.org](http://www.soroptimistsaratoga.org).

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