



## **SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL DECEMBER 10TH PRESIDENT'S APPEAL**

Every year on December 10th, the Soroptimist International President asks all Soroptimists to join her in making a small sacrifice by contributing to a project that will assist women living in extreme poverty. This tradition began in 1981 and has assisted women in countries throughout the world including India, Kenya, Angola, Laos, Western Samoa, the former Yugoslavia, Bangladesh and the Dominican Republic. The date, December 10th, was chosen to commemorate the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948 and is recognized today as the United Nations' Human Rights Day.

### **2007 December 10<sup>th</sup> Appeal – Restoring Dignity**

The project will help the Fistula Hospital in Ethiopia.

**(I don't have the info on this project yet)**

### **2006 December 10th Appeal - Project Punjab - Helping Girls into School.**

The project is in partnership with [Oxfam](#) and aims to increase girls' attendance at school and improve the quality of education in a rural, impoverished area of the Punjab in Pakistan.

Issues of violence against women such as bride burning will be addressed through training and the development of leadership skills in women and girls. This is an all embracing project which

will again lead to the creation of a sustainable community where females play key roles.

### **2005 December 10<sup>th</sup> Appeal – Roll Back Malaria**

For the 2005 appeal, Soroptimist International partnered with the Roll Back Malaria Department of the World Health Organization to protect pregnant women and children living in the community of Zé, Benin, Africa against the scourge of malaria, a major cause of illness and death. In Benin, malaria has caused more deaths among children under the age of five years than any other single infection. Insecticide-treated mosquito nets were provided to pregnant women and families with young children. The nets cost just US\$5.00 each and have been proven highly effective prevention against malaria. Along with distribution of the nets, Benin's Soroptimists worked with local health cadres to educate the women of Zé about preventing malaria, recognizing it when it strikes, and the importance of prompt treatment with effective medicines.

### **2004 December 10<sup>th</sup> Appeal – Children of Peace**

The 2004 appeal supported the organization Children of Peace and the Ho Chi Minh City Youth Shelter in Vietnam. Children of Peace works through the shelter to provide home to more than 500 homeless women and children. Funds raised were used to hire staff for the shelter, teachers, vocational trainers and to provide health and dental care for the children.

### **2003 December 10<sup>th</sup> Appeal – People of Paraguay**

The 2003 appeal supported Project for the People of Paraguay to address problems of economic disparity through education, vocational training and job placement for women and families

in Paraguay. The project funded a facility to be used for educational classes and job training.

**Previous Appeals**

2002: HIV/AIDS Continuum of Care in the Ukraine

2001: Building Peace Among Children

2000: Legacy of Learning

1999: Soroptimist Stop Traffic

1998: Women's center in the Solomon Islands

1997: Education project in India

1996: Landmine removal in Anglola