



Riversidelines

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF RIVERSIDE
DECEMBER 2024**



SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF RIVERSIDE

“FRIENDSGIVING”

November 19, 2024

SOROPTIMIST VISION

Women and girls have the resources and opportunities to reach their full potential and live their dreams.

SOROPTIMIST MISSION

Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.

SOROPTIMIST TAG LINE

“INVESTING IN DREAMS”

SOROPTIMIST CORE VALUES

Soroptimist International of the Americas is committed to:

- GENDER EQUALITY: Women and girls live free from discrimination.
- EMPOWERMENT: Women and girls are free to act in their own best interest.
- EDUCATION: Women and girls deserve to lead full and productive lives through access to education.
- DIVERSITY & FELLOWSHIP: Women from varied backgrounds and perspectives work together

to improve the lives of women and girls.

SOROPTIMIST BIG GOAL

Invest in the dreams of half a million women and girls through access to education.

2023-24 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*Edith Gingerich
2024-25 President*

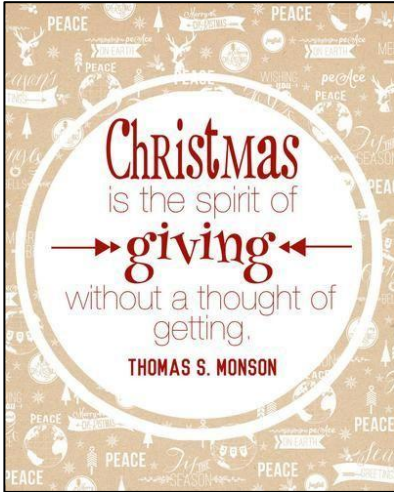
Our club “Friendsgiving” celebration on November 19th was a joyous occasion for members, old and new friends and even some of the employees from Habitat for Humanity who all came together to share a meal.

Chairs Melanie McKee and Tiffanie Tate are busy planning our 2nd annual “Rhinestones, Cowgirls & Auction” fundraiser on February 21, 2025. All members should be working on their silent auction baskets and helping to get donations for the live auction and for sponsorships. This year will be bigger and better than last year and we are all excited to participate.

Chair Michelle Paradise is also busy planning our next “Live Your Dream, Dream It Be It” Conference on March 15, 2025. If you haven’t already been assigned a task, we will need everyone to participate so please

contact Michelle to find out where you can help.

As we move through the holiday season, I am reminded of the following quote:



For SI Riverside, this quote about the spirit of giving follows us all year long as we work together to give women and girls access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment. The more we can give, the more our club can succeed.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU ALL!

Edith Gingerich
2024-25 SIR President



DECEMBER 2024 CALENDAR



- 2 INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY
- 3 BOARD MEETING
12:00 PM on ZOOM
- 5 INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER DAY FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
- 10 BUSINESS MEETING
12:00 PM, ZOOM and Habitat for Humanity, 2180 Iowa Avenue, Riverside
- 10 INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY
- 15 HOLIDAY PARTY
3:00 PM, Home of Michelle Paradise

No Program Meeting
In December

JANUARY 2025 CALENDAR



- 7 BOARD MEETING
12:00 PM on ZOOM
- 11 NATIONAL DAY OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS
- 14 BUSINESS MEETING
12:00 PM, ZOOM and Habitat for Humanity, 2180 Iowa Avenue, Riverside

- 24 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF EDUCATION
- 28 PROGRAM MEETING
12:00 PM, Habitat for Humanity, 2180 Iowa Avenue, Riverside

DATES TO REMEMBER



February 21, 2025
RHINESTONES, COWGIRLS & AUCTION FUNDRAISER

March 15, 2025
LIVE YOUR DREAM: DREAM IT, BE IT CONFERENCE

April 2025
SALUTE TO SERVICE AWARDS LUNCHEON

June 5-8, 2025
GWR SPRING CONFERENCE
We-Ko-Pa Resort & Casino
Fort McDowell, Arizona

July 2027
SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

FOR YOUR INFORMATION
Soroptimist International of Riverside, a club in District 1 of the Golden West Region of Soroptimist International of the Americas, meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Business meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday and Program meetings are on the 4th Tuesday. Business meetings are hybrid on ZOOM and in person at Habitat for Humanity, 2180 Iowa Avenue, Riverside.

Program meetings are in person only at Habitat for Humanity. Meetings will last from noon until approximately 1:15 PM. Please arrive a little early so we may begin promptly at noon.

**DECEMBER 10, 2024
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN
RIGHTS DAY**



Human Rights Day and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Human Rights Day is observed annually around the world on December 10th. It commemorates the anniversary of one of the world's most groundbreaking global pledges: the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). This landmark document enshrines the inalienable rights that everyone is entitled to as a human being regardless of race, color, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

The Declaration was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in Paris on December 10, 1948, and sets out, for the first time, fundamental human rights to be universally protected.

As a "common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations," the UDHR is a global blueprint for international, national and local laws and policies and a

bedrock of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development.

It is available in 577 languages, from Abkhaz to Zulu, making the UDHR the most translated document in the world.

2024 Theme: Our Rights, Our Future, Right Now

Human rights can empower individuals and communities to forge a better tomorrow. By embracing and trusting the full power of human rights as the path to the world we want, we can become more peaceful, equal and sustainable.

This Human Rights Day we focus on how human rights are a pathway to solutions, playing a critical role as a preventative, protective and transformative force for good. As UN Secretary General António Guterres has said, "Human rights are the foundation for peaceful, just and inclusive societies."

This year's theme is a call to acknowledge the importance and relevance of human rights in our everyday lives. We have an opportunity to change perceptions by speaking up against hate speech, correcting misinformation and countering disinformation. This is the time to mobilize action to reinvigorate a global movement for human rights.



ARTICLE FROM:
<https://www.un.org/en/observances/human-rights-day>

**SOROPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL**



WHERE SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL STANDS ON POVERTY

POSITION SUMMARY

- Disproportionate numbers of women and girls are living in extreme poverty globally due to persisting social, cultural and economic barriers.
- An integrated, gender-sensitive and human rights centered approach to all policy and legislation is essential to ensure that women and children living in poverty and other vulnerable situations benefit from inclusive economic growth and development.

WHERE THINGS STAND

As stated in the Report of the United Nations Working Group on Discrimination Against Women and Girls, presented to the United Nations Human Rights Council in April 2023, "poverty is more than the outcome of a lack of income or wealth. It is the result of a blatant systemic failure leading to a vicious cycle of exclusion and discrimination that violates the civil, cultural, economic, environmental, political and social rights of both present and future generations."

In 2022, an estimated 388 million women and girls were living in

extreme poverty (1 in every 10 women), compared with 372 million men and boys. This equates to more than 700 million people – or 10% of the global population – that are surviving on less than \$1.90 per day. The intersection of social, economic, climate and legal inequalities imposes the heaviest penalties on women and girls.

Wealth and income inequalities – including the gender pay gap – have continued to increase both within and between countries and disproportionately impact women and girls, contributing to increasing levels of poverty. Gendered income poverty is a real issue that can have catastrophic implications to the health, wellbeing and status of all women and girls, including older women. In a context of gendered labor markets, contributory pension systems face challenges to guarantee universal and adequate pension benefits for women. Over their life course, women spend more time dedicated to caregiving, lower labor market participation, more part-time work and lower earnings than men. These components compromise their pension entitlements in pension systems that link benefits to paid work, contributions and earnings. In addition, 763 million globally – 67% of whom are women – still cannot read or write.

According to UNESCO, the literacy gender gap is the result of unequal access to basic education. In today's digital era, women and girls continue to fall behind as they lack digital literacy skills on top of basic literacy skills, which in turn impedes their ability to undertake many forms of paid work.

Last, research has highlighted that unless climate change is curbed, it will drive up to 130

million more people into poverty in the next decade and displace up to 3 billion people by the end of this century. Climate migrants face heightened barriers to accessing basic healthcare, safe water and sanitation, education, food security and shelter. In addition, all women and girls face accentuated risks of gender-based violence, trafficking and child, early and forced marriage and unions, placing them in particularly vulnerable situations.

WHERE THINGS NEED TO GO

A disconnected approach to social, economic and environmental policies has not produced the desired results towards poverty eradication and reducing inequality. Policies on economic, social and environmental development should therefore be interconnected to ensure that people, in particular women and children living in poverty and other vulnerable situations, benefit from inclusive economic growth and development. Crucially, all policies and legislation must hold gender inclusivity and human rights at their core to ensure equal protection for all, in accordance with international law and human rights treaties including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).

Achieving zero poverty for all women and girls by 2030 will therefore require simultaneous action on long-standing gender disparities, including access to land, healthcare and family planning, education and the labor market.

The digital gender divide must be bridged through increased government investment in national electricity grids, accessible and affordable networks, digital technologies, digital literacy training and lifelong learning for all women and girls. Fully funded programs must be implemented to expand all women and girls' participation in science, technology, engineering, the arts and math (STEAM) to reach gender parity and equal opportunities to work in the field.

Social protection system floors must be implemented to ensure basic income throughout the life course, including at pension age. States are required to ensure that all women and girls have fair and equitable structures for lifelong contributions, including times when they are working as unpaid carers, to ensure financial security throughout their life course. Social development policies must be underpinned by basic human rights that guarantee the full protection of women of all ages. When women and girls are included in social protection systems, they can positively contribute as part of the solution to achieving economic justice. A simulation analysis conducted by UN Women in 2022 demonstrated that an integrated policy approach – including more spending on social protection, investments in the green economy, better infrastructure and education – would lift close to 150 million women and girls out of poverty by 2030.

Empowering women and girls to take a central role in developing innovative solutions is crucial to improving community responses to the climate crisis. This can be done by enhancing their participation, decision-making and leadership in climate change mitigation, adaptation and

disaster risk reduction strategies. Gender-sensitive humanitarian relief is vital to ensure the wellbeing and dignity of all women and girls during and post-disaster.

FUNDAMENTAL ACTION

All States are urged to implement measures for all indicators to achieve United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 1 on No Poverty, with priority being given to:

- Apply gender-sensitive and human rights-based approaches to all policies, legislation, discussions and decisions related to all aspects of poverty eradication and development.
- Honor their obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms Against Women (CEDAW), including by adapting their national laws.
- Increase investments in quality education and lifelong learning, and create specific, targeted programs, including on digital technology and STEAM subjects and careers, focused on enabling all women and girls into paid work, education and training.
- Adopt inclusive, universal healthcare via increased investments in quality healthcare provisions, staffing, training and community education programs.
- Bridge the gender pay gap by providing equal pay for work of equal value between men and women and establishing non-discriminatory livable wages, with the provision of accessible financial support and training to enable those who wish to develop entrepreneurial skills.
- Implement universal social protection system floors to alleviate poverty by ensuring that

human rights are respected, protected and fulfilled.

- Measure and prioritize the wellbeing of women and girls beyond GDP by deploying multidimensional indicators to ensure quality, disaggregated data collection.
- Fulfil legally binding commitments agreed upon in the 2015 Paris Agreement and further Declarations on climate action.
- Develop and implement legislation to ensure gender equality across ownership of land and other resources including but not limited to clean water.
- Develop and implement policies to build gender-sensitive resilience in communities affected by natural and human-made disasters, including safe shelter and food security.

ADDITIONAL ACTION

- Increase participation of women and girls in all levels of education and training by ensuring safe, inclusive access to quality education and training programs.
- Ensure that care work is recognized as a valued job and can contribute to pension.
- Promote women's leadership and their full, effective and equal participation in decision making.
- Invest in and strengthen social policies and programs that provide necessary support and protection and empower women and girls to take their equal place in communities.
- Provide universal quality health care, especially maternal health and childcare supported by appropriate education and

information on sexual and reproductive health rights.

- Ensure safe access to water and sanitation for homes, schools and workplaces. Involve women in community management of these facilities as a positive action to achieve sustainable development.

WHERE SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL STANDS

Soroptimist International recognizes that rates of poverty globally have exponentially increased as a result of intersecting crises. We also recognize that all women and girls are among those impacted but poverty and gender inequality are not inevitable. Poverty and gender inequality are the result of structural discrimination which has been at the heart of law and policy for decades. In line with United Nations General Assembly Resolution 74/235, we must strive for justice through a gender lens which is inclusive of social justice, economic justice, climate justice and legal justice.

Soroptimist International understands that education plays a transformative role as a driver for sustainable development, peace, equality and social justice at large. Access to quality, lifelong education empowers and equips all women and girls with the essential skills required to access the labor force and develop self-sustaining futures.

To that end, Soroptimist International works to support the achievement of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through its programs to educate, enable and empower women and girls at the grassroots level, and by advocating on behalf of women and girls in all their diversity, to demand that legislation and

policies are in place to ensure that no-one is left behind.

NOVEMBER 19, 2025 FRIENDSGIVING



“FRIENDSGIVING” POTLUCK

On November 19th, members of SI Riverside, old friends, new friends and employees of Habitat for Humanity Riverside came together for a joyous and fun filled "Friendsgiving."

The celebration began with the recitation of the Soroptimist Grace by member Lynn Seccina:

*For the bread upon the board
make us truly thankful
Lord. For each one meeting here
whom our hearts hold close
and dear. For this day, O Lord
above, now accept our grateful
love. AMEN*

This beautiful grace was followed by the consumption of a bounty of delectable food lovingly prepared by the members of SI Riverside including turkey and all of the fixins' plus a selection of many scrumptious desserts.

This year's Friendsgiving was a wonderful occasion filled with camaraderie and delectable cuisine and it was special to all of

the members of SI Riverside because it included our friends.

Many thanks to member Charlene Johnson for her outstanding holiday decorating that added to the festive mood in the room.

More importantly, congratulations to all of the members of SI Riverside for their hard work which resulted in another very successful Friendsgiving celebration.







**DECEMBER 15, 2025
HOLIDAY PARTY**



**SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 15, 2024
3:00 PM**

**MICHELLE PARADISE'S
HOME**

**\$30/person
Send payment via Zelle,
PayPal or check to SIR
Treasurer Debbie Ferraro**

**Menu: Pasta, Pasta
Sauces, Meats, Toppings,
Dinner Rolls, Spumoni, Iced
Tea, Water and Coffee.
Bring your own wine or
other beverages.**

**Each attendee should bring
a WRAPPED gift with a \$20
value to play our ever
popular "Steal the Gift"
game.**

**Join the TOY DRIVE for
Arlington Temporary
Assistance and bring an
UNWRAPPED toy to the
party.**

**RSVP BY TUESDAY
DECEMBER 10, 2024
TO DEBBIE KELLEY**

**Text/Call: (951) 205-5340
(Identify yourself in text)**

**Email:
debbie52LCSW@aol.com**



**FEBRUARY 21, 2025
RHINESTONES, COWGIRLS
& AUCTION**



SI Riverside's 2nd annual "Rhinstones, Cowgirls & Auction" fundraiser will be held on February 21, 2025, at the Elks Lodge in Riverside. Please mark your calendars for this date change. "Save the Date" notices will be sent out on December 2, 2024, with formal invitations following in the week of January 2, 2025.

**RHINESTONES, COWGIRLS
& AUCTION DEADLINE
REMINDERS**

AS SOON AS POSSIBLE please give Melanie McKee the name of your Silent Auction basket so she can maintain a current Silent Auction list.

JANUARY 10, 2025, is the deadline for materials for the event program to be received by SI Riverside for the Live Auction, Silent Auction and Sponsorships.

However, we will still be accepting donations after January 10, 2025, but there will be no guarantee that those donors will be recognized in the event program. Please aim for January 10th to provide all of your materials for the event program.

FEBRUARY 15, 2025, is the deadline to get all wine, hard liquor and beer donations to Lynn Secina for our Red, White and Booze drawing.

Melanie McKee & Tiffanie Tate
RCA Co-Chairs

**MARCH 15, 2025
LIVE YOUR DREAM:
DREAM IT, BE IT
CONFERENCE**



“SAVE THE DATE”

**March 15, 2025
Riverside City College**

The Live Your Dream Conference Planning Committee met on November 15th and everything is moving along smoothly.

Rosa Santos-Lee has met with the Jurupa and Alvord coordinators and her power point presentation was well received. Historically, 17 applications have been given to each school site. Rosa will evaluate the formula and adjust as we are looking to reach 120-150 students this year.

Rosa is also looking into the potential of foster youth recruitment with a Homeless and Foster Care representative from the Jurupa Unified School District.

Lt. Col. Jengi Martinez, pilot, United States Air Force, has been confirmed as the morning speaker. Our own Dr. Tiffanie Tate will be the afternoon speaker.

We have more than 150 backpacks currently on hand so we do not need to purchase additional backpacks this year.

JoAnn Moore is overseeing the Collage Project (aka Vision Boards). All members can contribute by sending photos, motivational words and quotes, etc., to JoAnn.

And lastly, Susan Exon is looking into a grant from Soroptimist International of the Americas.

Michelle Paradise
LYD Conference Chair

**SOROPTIMIST
EDUCATION & TRAINING**

**SOROPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL OF THE
AMERICAS BIG GOAL**

Soroptimist has a Big Goal of investing in the dreams of half a million women and girls through access to education by 2031.



Achieving this audacious goal will ensure that we make a sustainable and measurable difference in the lives of women and girls, as well as their families and communities.

This half a million figure will be comprised of women and girls participating in our Dream Programs and Big Goal Accelerator Projects, which are club and region projects that also increase access to education for women and girls facing obstacles to their success.

As we build on a decade of increased collective impact, we are ready to meet the needs of women and girls throughout our federation and make a name for Soroptimist the world over.

Article from:
Soroptimist 101

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



**Chris Deviny – 2nd
JoAnn Moore – 12th
Ellen Clizbe – 17th**

**DECEMBER MEMBERSHIP
ANNIVERSARIES**



**Linda Robertson
12-08-2009**

CONTACT US

CONTACT US



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SOROPTIMIST PLEDGE



**I pledge allegiance to
Soroptimist and to
The ideals for which
it stands:
The Sincerity of
Friendship,
The Joy of
Achievement,
The Dignity of Service,
The Integrity of
Profession,
The Love of Country.
I will put forth my
greatest effort to
promote, uphold, and
defend these ideals, for
a larger fellowship
in home, in society,
in business, for country
and for God.**

RIVERSIDELINES



EDITOR
Pam Bradford

DEADLINE
Submit articles and photos
by the 25th of each
month to Pam at:

pambradford@pamsemail.net

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

