

PROGRAMME FOCUS REPORT FORM

FEDERATION: SI/Europe

NEW PROJECT/PROGRAMME
CONTINUING PROJECT/PROGRAMME X
FUNDRAISING

The core purpose of Soroptimist International is to advance human rights and the status of women. In order to do this, clubs undertake service projects in their communities that improve the lives of women and girls. In order to track the success in achieving the core purpose, SI clubs are asked to submit programme focus reports on their successful club projects. Once completed, forward to:

Union and/or Federation Coordinator : **Health Coordinator SI Belgium and S/E**

Part I. Identification

Date April 2005

Club Name: **ANTWERPEN** Union/Region BELGIUM

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Project Title: **CHILD THERAPEUTIC NOURISHMENT**

Project Partnerships: Medical personnel of Koningin Paola Ziekenhuis (Queen Paola Hospital for Children)

Target Group: **Particular and therapeutic nourishment for babies and children of underprivileged families after their release from the children's hospital**

Part II:

Programme of Service Area* (Check the box/boxes that best describes your project): *Details overleaf.

<input type="checkbox"/> Human Rights/Status of Women:	<input type="checkbox"/> Education:	<input type="checkbox"/> Economic and Social Development:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health:	<input type="checkbox"/> Environment:	<input type="checkbox"/> International Goodwill and Understanding:

Describe your project

(1) What you did, (2) Why you did it, (3) How you did it, (4) Results and recommendations

(1) The ward for gastroenterology and nutrition problems of the "Koningin Paola Kinderziekenhuis" (Queen Paola Children Hospital) specializes in eating disorders among infants, toddlers and teenagers. Complaints of nourishment refusal or aversion, with resulting bodyweight loss or stagnation, and growth disorders, are treated. Specific hypoallergenic therapeutic nourishment, which is almost completely pre-digested solutions, and/or astronaut food, is essential for the healing process. Most of those high quality nutrients have to be adapted to the specific needs of each child separately to cover almost all of its requirements in energy and in essential nutrients. The preparation of this individually adapted nourishment is very expensive, but it is included in the daily fees of the children's hospital.

Once the children leave the hospital however, all expenses for their nourishment have to be covered by their parents, very often for a long period. For some families the financial burden is too high. That is why, for financial reasons, parents are pressured to feed their children regular food, with a relapse of their medical problems as a consequence.

Financial support for these families is of the utmost importance. It is often the prerequisite to recovery and healing and for some of the patients it is even lifesaving.

(2)) For the celebration of the 75th anniversary of SI Club Antwerpen we wanted to make a special effort to support effectively different organizations (9 in total) which are committed to the softening of the life of needy people in society, in Antwerpen and abroad.

(3) Several activities to collect funds were organised (theatre, concerts, selling of products, auction of peace dolls made by artists, etc.)

(4) A contribution of **1.250 €** is available for enabling underprivileged parents to buy the therapeutic nourishment for their child.

To prevent abuse, this help is provided in concert with the medical personnel of the hospital.

Project Costs: Estimated number of Hours Spent: the club members organised a number of activities (theatre, concert, selling chocolates, lanyards, bloc notes, auction of peace dolls made by artists, etc); in two years time, nearly 26.000 € were available for the 9 chosen projects.