

## PROGRAMME FOCUS REPORT FORM

FEDERATION: SI/Europe

NEW PROJECT/PROGRAMME  
CONTINUING PROJECT/PROGRAMME  
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 SI/E**

### Part I. Identification

Date: April 2005

Club Name **ANTWERPEN**

Union/Region BELGIUM

Club contact Name Monique VERMEIREN Email: vermeiren.monique@vt4.net

Project Title: **HET RASTER – help concerning autism**

Project Partnerships: \_\_\_\_\_

Target Group: **parents of autistic children**

### 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) Families with a child or adolescent diagnosed with autism in the Antwerp and Vlaams Brabant provinces may request help from "Het Raster". This is one of three associations helping out with domestic support for families. The association is accredited by the "Vlaams Fonds" (Flemish Foundation).

One of its major goals is to help parents to get insight in the subject of autism. During in-house sessions parents learn to better understand the attitude of their autistic child. Since there is no general answer for the problems parents face, the home counselling helps them in their search for an individual approach.

Support is aimed at the complete development of a child within its family environment. The child is then placed in a broader context. Cooperation with the school, the rehabilitation centre or other pedagogical institutions comes next. The overall context requires constant supervision and support for the child, the parents and their environment. The association helps to monitor (rasteren) the overall context. Therefore the name 'Het Raster'.

(2) ) For the celebration of the 75<sup>th</sup> 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.

Projects were chosen that would not only help financially but also in a more practical way as help with better understanding problems surrounding education.

(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 **1.500 €** was made for a video equipment to be used for observation of behaviour patrons of the children at home. Based on the video, the Raster provides guidance how parents can change their attitude towards the children.

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