

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 : **Human Rights Coordinator SI Belgium and SI/E**

Part I. Identification

Date: April 2005 Club Name: **ANTWERPEN** Union/Region: BELGIUM
Club contact Name: Mireille DOM Email: mireille.dom@hotmail.com

Project Title: **ZENITH – Moral and material assistance to people in an emergency situation**

Project Partnerships: _____

Target Group: **people in an emergency situation, underprivileged and generational poor and refugees**

Part II:

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

Human Rights/Status of Women: **Education:** **Economic and Social Development:**
Health: **Environment:** **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) Zenith was founded in 1992. Its aim is to organize moral and material assistance to people who end up in an emergency situation: the underprivileged and generational poor, refugees fleeing their native country for racial, religious or political reasons, and others. The centre helps needy persons in the Antwerp area and collaborates with public centres for social welfare (OCMW), health insurance funds and homes for battered persons. A team of 50 motivated volunteers gives them a hospitable welcome.

On a weekly basis 250 families receive material help. 10 903 food parcels were distributed in 2004. The "Voedselbank" (Food Bank), bakeries, department and chain stores donated 93 327 kilograms of food and allied products. VZW Zenith bought 10.566 kilogram of vegetables and fruit.

Financial and material help, such as clothing, curtains, linen, toys, are collected from private donations. In various rooms of the Zenith house, clothing is made available for a small charge. Young mothers receive a birth parcel of baby clothes, pampers and toys.

The Zenith house is located in De Marbaixstraat 22, 2060 Antwerpen (tel. +32 (0)3-213 15 75)

(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.

Projects were chosen that would not only help financially but also in a more practical way as help with clothes, food, toys, household tools.

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

Members gathered cloths and knitted blankets and garments for babies.

Members were also engaged in wrapping Christmas gifts at a large bookstore in exchange of a voluntary contribution by the clients in favour of Zenith.

(4) A contribution of **1250 €** was made for refurbishing a part of the Zenith house. Members gathered cloths and knitted blankets and garments for babies and were engaged in wrapping Christmas gifts for the benefit of Zenith.

A good contact was made between the club members and the Zenith volunteers.

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.