NEW PROJECT/PROGRAMMExCONTINUING PROJECT/PROGRAMMEFUNDRAISINGxx

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:

Club Name:

SI Antwerpen

Union and/or Federation Coordinator Christiane Hozay

Part I. Identification

Date: april 2007 Union/Region: Belgium

Club contact Name: Liliane Schoepen Email: <u>lilianeschoepen@skynet.be</u>

Project Title: familial violence – Centrum Algemeen Welzijnswerk

Project Partnerships: none

Target Group: women, victim of familial Violence

Part II:

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

X Human Rights/Status of Women:	Education:	Economic and Social Development:
Health:	Environment:	International Goodw ill and Understanding:

Describe your project

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

(1)We provided the means for improvement of the facilities in a residential Crisis Centre for women victims of intra familial violence. More specifically the infrastructure of a playground for their children living with them in this centre was ameliorated. The Centre is one of four similar institutions situated on addresses unknown to the public and are run by a General Welfare Office (Centrum Algemeen Welzijnswerk, CAW) and give shelter to abused women.

(2)The abused women searching assistance from CAW, stay in these houses for a number of months, together with their children. We aimed at copying ideal familial conditions for these children, one of which is the possibility for recreation. We opted for the CAW organisation because of their experience in the field and because they can relay on well-trained social workers who operate in a systematic way.

(3)First we invited at our monthly statutory meeting the CAW-director in charge of these matters. She gave an overview of how one of these shelter homes, *Het Zijhuis* in Antwerp, was conceived, how it functions, what the problems and the needs are. On the basis of these data we decided to provide a fund for the amelioration of the playground. The money was taken from a general fund intended to support local projects and fed by a yearly extra contribution of the club members.

(4)**2000** € was donated. In the treatment of intra familial violence a global approach of the family by specialized social workers is recommended. When sheltering these families, an appropriate surrounding should be created evoking normal family life. Initiatives that improve different aspects of their living conditions, should be encouraged.

Project Costs:

Estimated number of Hours Spent: One day