

Wallowa County Vitality Summit

Organization: SI Wallowa County

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Mission and purpose in Wallowa County: Our mission and core purpose is to improve the lives of women and girls in our local community and throughout the world.

Key metrics/outcomes/impact for the past year:

- Provided \$12,000 in local scholarships to graduating seniors
- Awarded \$2,000 to a local woman who is head of household wishing to pursue a college degree (Woman of Opportunity Award)
- Awarded \$1,000 to a local woman in her pursuit of a post-graduate degree (Fellowship Award)
- \$2,000 towards under-insured Wallowa Co. women for mammograms
- \$5,000 in large grant awards and \$8,000 in projects requested to us
- Met our obligation of repairs to the Odd Fellows roof in the amount of \$20,000 in grants and outside donations
- We contribute \$5,000 plus to Community Connections for their operations of Food Bank, Meals-on-Wheels and Senior Meals
- Our Thrift Shop not only enables us to fund these projects and many more, but by keeping our pricing low we feel we offer an affordable alternative for shopping, especially to those in the lower incomes of the county.

Current top 3 priorities/focus areas:

- Our club's programs and efforts to raise awareness of women's issues will enable women and girls to lead better lives.
- Public awareness: We would like to see Soroptimists be widely known for its efforts to improve the lives of women and girls in their local communities and throughout the world.
- We would like our local membership to be a thriving, dynamic, progressive and relevant organization committed to our stated mission.

Challenges that you most need help with, either from another organization or the community at large:

- Educating the community that Soroptimists are a lot more than the Thrift Shop, and that we have a world-wide impact on the lives of women and girls.
- Encourage new members to come join us: We need a new infusion of new talent, inspiration and ideas!

Top 3 opportunities you see for the coming year:

- Use the updated new look of the Thrift Shop to encourage new patrons to buy and contribute items to the store.
- We will be focused on recruiting new members to keep our mission statements alive and vibrant in the coming years.

- The educating of the public of who we are!

of current active/serious collaborators: We of course collaborate with the Odd Fellows, mostly in issues with the building or fund-raising efforts. We have had joint efforts with Rotary to raise money for the Food Bank. AAUW have worked with us in the past on projects, mainly the Fashion Show. The local high schools have helped when extra bodies were needed.

Who would you like to collaborate with more? I would conjecture that all of the above organizations have overlapping mission statements which would lead to a natural collaboration. We award monies to local high school young women who volunteer outside their normal activities. That could be an encouragement for others to do likewise.