



SOROPTIMIST®  
Investing in Dreams

*A global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.*

## SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF PAMPANGA STAR

### **Chartered: April 9, 2014**

#### The STAR IS BORN

I first met PP Lucy Mendoza and PFD Letty Yap when they visited our office, DPWH Region III, to request clearance to allow them to install the marker of SI Pampanga at the center island along JASA Avenue near San Fernando NLEX Exit going to Manila. While waiting, they introduced Soroptimist to me and invited me to join the organization. I thought then that that would be the last time that I will be seeing them. Much to my surprise, after a week, PP Lucy again visited our office to inform me that the members of SI Pampanga are planning to charter a new club and also to invite me to attend the orientation at the office of PFD Yap at Makabali Hospital. While I had apprehensions at first, I decided to go. I even invited three of my officemates to attend with me just to hear what Soroptimist is all about and learn about chartering a new club. On April 9, 2014, a week after their visit, Soroptimist of Pampanga-Star was formally chartered at Otel Apartelle, Lazatin Blvd., the City of San Fernando, Pampanga with PG Minda A. Garcia as the Inducting Officer. The club's name was conceptualized from the symbol of the City of San Fernando, the Christmas Capital of the Philippines. The city is also known for being the home of the best lantern-makers in the country. All pioneer members are also prime in their respective fields, so what better term to call this new club than the word, "Star." It was both an honor and a challenge that was given to me to be chosen as this newborn club's chartered President. It was only during the induction that I first met most of the new members. There were 12 of us that time; but later on, we were told that two of the newly inducted members actually belong to our mother club, the SI Pampanga. After four years and nine months of its existence as a club, SI Pampanga Star is moving forward! From having only 10 members then, this club now has 28 members. We aim to bring a huge impact to the community by organizing different relevant and timely activities and programs that would demonstrate the genuine ideals and advocacies of Soroptimist and the members. And just like its name, SI Pampanga Star, it strives to bring light to the lives of the women and girls in the community, working together to educate, empower and enable opportunities for them, one shining project at a time.