



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 DAVAO

Chartered in June 2, 1966 by Mariquita Castelo with Atty. Felicidad Santos as the Charter President began with 18 members. SI Davao hosted the very first Soroptimist International of the Philippines Council - National Convention in February 28, 1971, 11th SIPR Mid Biennium Conference in 1987, 14th Mid Biennium Conference in April 24, 1987.

Chartered and sponsored 8 Soroptimist Clubs in Mindanao. And built a two-story building hailed the first Soroptimist club house in the region - 1978-1982, to which the ground floor of the building generates income from rentals being used to fund various projects, while the second floor housed the Cancer Detection (CADET) Clinic and provide as the venue for the monthly club meetings.

Continuing Projects

Cancer Detection Clinic (CADET) - since 1971 and still one of the major projects, this project offers free papsmear and breast examination. This project was recognized by SIA and was awarded 1st place in the program category of Soroptimist Celebrating Success and was presented in the plenary session during the 1994 SIA Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Project SALVA (Save A Life Thru Vaccination) started in 2013 offering free cervical vaccination to indigent women. 25 women benefitted at a cost of P123, 125 solicited from donors.

Project 5-0 - this \$10,000 SIA grant project in the year 2001, is a training program which offered TESDA accredited trainings for women in Household Management and Caregiving course. in 2008, the club partnered with EMAR Colleges in managing the program; sharing with tuition fees for the enrollees.

SI Davao Linkages

The Women Network Group (WOMYNET) - organized in 1996 with Past Federation Director Pat Montemayor as one of the founders advocating for women's rights and monitoring RICAWAW cases.

SI Davao with the support from the network group led in lobbying for the establishment of the Correctional Institution for Women in Mindanao; the club raised funds to construct the dormitories of women transferred prisoners from Mandaluyong Correctional. There were 337 inmates at that time.

Balay Dangupan (House of Refuge) a facility run by the City Social Services Development Office (CSSDO), a temporary shelter for girl victims of physical and sexual abuse while awaiting court trials, SI Davao provides educational assistance to the wards of the shelter thru EMAR Human and Environmental College owned by DD Ma. Lita Montalban. The club provided school uniforms, school supplies and hosted parties during Christmas season.

Interagency Council Againsts Trafficking (IACAT) - SI Davao being a member of the council helps to bring awareness about the issue of "Human Trafficking" with usually women and girls' victim, in coordination with enforcement agencies such as the National Bureau of Investigation and the PNP.