Soroptimist International of Willimantic

What is Soroptimist?
Soroptimist is a 501(c)(3) international organization for business and professional women who work to improve the lives of women and girls. Loosely translated from Latin, Soroptimist is a coined term meaning "best for women". Soroptimist was founded in Oakland CA in 1921. The Willimantic Club was chartered in 1966.

What is the organization’s mission?
A global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.

Why does Soroptimist focus on women and girls?
Despite tremendous strides, women still do not enjoy equal economic or social status with their male counterparts. As an organization of and for women, Soroptimist feels uniquely qualified to tackle the challenges facing today's women and girls.

What programs does Soroptimist of Willimantic offer?
- Live Your Dream Award is given to a woman who is head of household and getting an education to improve the life of her family.
- Dream Grants to fund license and certification programs.
- Dream It Be It Conference for high school girls at ECSU in April each year.
- Dream It Be It Weekly program at a local high school.
- Domestic Violence Program ~ Welcome bags and Awareness.
- Next Step Program ~ Helping incarcerated women to rebuild their lives.

How are Soroptimist programs funded locally?
Soroptimist programs are funded locally by fundraisers and individual contributions. As a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, Soroptimist depends on outside contributions from businesses and individuals who support the Soroptimist mission.

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