Soroptimists Support Local Homeless Teen Girls

By Sheryl Longsworth

RANCHO CORDOVA, CA (MPG) - The Soroptimist Int'l of Rancho Cordova & Gold River club, working with the Folsom Cordova Homeless Student Services Program, purchased new bras on Thursday, October 4, for seventeen homeless teen girls who are required to take a physical education class. "I learned several years ago, that many homeless teen girls were refusing to dress down for PE, because they were so embarrassed by the condition of their undergarments. Wearing a new bra that fits well, is comfortable and pretty, make girls feel confident and good about themselves. Homeless girls already have enough to worry about that affects their self-esteem and confidence, they shouldn't have to feel embarrassed about what they're wearing under their clothes," says Sheryl Longsworth, co-founder and current president of the club. "It is our club's hope that by giving these girls to pick out bras THEY want to wear, not just wear what was donated to them, that their confidence and self-esteem will increase, which, hopefully, will result in improved academic performance," says Longsworth.

Since the club started this program eight years ago, they have served over 200 girls in the Folsom Cordova Unified School District. "Every girl we've served is so appreciative and grateful. They usually give us big hugs and some are even in tears because we care so much about them and want them to be successful in life," says Longsworth.

If you would like to help the club make a difference in girls' lives like the "Supporting" Homeless Teen Girls project and would like more information about the club, please visit http://www.soroptimistranchocordova.org/ and/or email Sheryl at siranchocordova@soroptimist.net.

Soroptimist is an international 501(c)3 non-profit organization who seeks to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment. The name, Soroptimist, means "best for women," and that's what the organization strives to achieve. Soroptimists are people at their best, working to help other women to be their best. Please send an email to siranchocordova@soroptimist.net to receive more information about Soroptimist International of Rancho Cordova & Gold River, how to become a member, or just learn how you can volunteer with our club members or visit http://www.soroptimistranchocordova.org/. ★