SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

Soroptimist International of Santa Barbara (SISB) is part of an international volunteer service organization for business and professional women. Our mission is to improve the lives of women and girls, locally and throughout the world. Soroptimist International members reside in 120 countries around the world.

SISB collaborates with and supports many community, national and international organizations, including:

- American Heart Association Go Red for Women
- Breast Cancer Resource Center
- Domestic Violence Solutions
- Girls Inc. of Greater Santa Barbara
- Santa Barbara Food Bank
- St. Vincent's Paths Program
- Storyteller
- Women for Women International

SISB recognizes, honors, and provides financial support to local high school women who voluteer in our community with the Violet Richardson Award. Through the Making a Difference for Women Award we support the efforts of women who, through their professional activities, work to improve the lives of women and girls. Our Women's Opportunity Award provides recognition and financial support to women entering or returning to the job market.

Our club is part of a large international effort that uses its official status with the United Nations to advocate on behalf of women's issues. The larger organization has collectively awarded more than 1,000 Women's Opportunities Awards, totaling more than $1 million.

JOIN SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF SANTA BARBARA

If you are interested in learning more about us, visit www.sbsoroptimist.org. Please let us hear from you if you would like to join us as we work to improve the lives of women and girls in our community and around the world.

SISB 2008 Community Service Award winners. Agency Award Recipients: American Heart Association, Girls Incorporated of Greater Santa Barbara, and the SIA Kenya Project.

For more information about SISB visit www. sbsoroptimist.org or email: annegsb@cox.net

Soroptimist is a 501 (c) 3 organization.
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TEACHING KIDS TO BE SAFE FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS

SAFE KIDS – SAFE FUTURE
SAFETY TOWN
PEDESTRIAN • BIKE • FIRE • AMBULANCE • 911

sponsored by

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TEACHING KIDS TO BE SAFE FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS

Every summer in Santa Barbara, over five hundred kindergarten and first grade children prepare for the school year by participating in a Safety Town program sponsored by Soroptimist International of Santa Barbara (SISB). During the five-day program, they learn the essential skills they will need in their daily activities at school and at home.

Each Safety Town session starts on a Monday when parents and children arrive at the school site where they find a carefully laid out city built to the scale of a small child. Miniature buildings line a grid of streets complete with traffic signs and signals. Each child receives a bright yellow tee shirt to wear during program sessions. After a brief orientation meeting, the children say goodbye to

their parents and break into small groups led by volunteer teen counselors and supervised by staff.

In these groups, the children learn and practice safety skills. They learn how to safely cross the street and how to obey traffic signals. They practice these skills while walking and while driving miniature cars, complete with safety belts. They are taught safety at railroad crossings, safe bicycle interaction, personal and stranger safety, and how to handle potentially unsafe situations when at play or in the home. Videos, craft projects, songs, and games reinforce the safe conduct rules the children have learned.

Visits from community agency representatives, including police, firefighters, forest rangers and bus drivers, augment the program.

Safety Town is staffed by paid credentialed teachers and assistants. Volunteers from the National Charity League and teen volunteers (Counselors in Training) work with the children under staff supervision. Members of SISB volunteer their time to organize and publicize the program.

Safety Town has been in operation in Santa Barbara for over 30 years as a fee-for-service summer camp. In recent years, SISB has offered scholarships to economically disadvantaged children. With the help of several generous community organizations and foundations, program enrollment has doubled.

For more information on Safety Town or to find out how to enroll your child, please visit www.sbsoroptimist.org