

**Congratulations to Soroptimist International of Sequim on it's
75th Anniversary in May 2022!**

We know that the Soroptimist's mission to "provide women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment" is right in line with what we at First Step Family Support Center hope for women and for girls. Our mission, "Promoting the Healthy Development of children and families on the North Olympic Peninsula" has given us the opportunity to partner with this wonderful organization for many years.

We are so grateful for the support of the Soroptimist International of Sequim group over many years both through the grants that they have given to us to help women and children and through the sheer "elbow grease" that they use to keep our clothing and equipment closet for low income children clean and organized each month! Soroptimist International of Sequim has been supporting First Step for over 10 years!

First Step, organized as a non-profit in 1974, works primarily with low income families, often single mothers, with young children 0-6. We are a two generation and sometimes a three generational program that seeks to help both mothers and children (and sometimes grandparents) reach their potentials. We have many programs within First Step and our goal, like the Soroptimists, is to help children and their parents thrive.

Soroptimist International of Sequim has partnered with First Step to help women move forward in their lives in many ways over the years including but not limited to:

- 1. Purchasing books for children that focus on positive and powerful women role models and stories that give girls encouragement to be all that they want to be!***
- 2. Providing support for healthy pregnancies, healthy births outcomes and healthy babies through our maternity support and infant programs***
- 3. Purchasing safe beds for babies to sleep in that will fit in small environments and giving mothers power through telling them how to keep their babies safe when they sleep (thus reducing SIDS by 50%)***
- 4. Assisting women who we have referred to SI of Sequim for scholarships thus helping local women reach their goals of economic empowerment***

We are so grateful for the support of such a wonderful organization of women in Sequim. We hope to continue to work together so that women and girls will have access to the education and training that they need to achieve economic empowerment and that they will have the resources and opportunities to reach their full potential and live their dreams!"

Congratulations to Soroptimist International of Sequim's many jobs well done over 75 years of service!