



Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide



ZONTA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 16 2014 – 2016 BIENNIUM PROJECT

'The Sophie Elliott Foundation'

MEMO TO CLUB PRESIDENTS

Please share this with your club members

On 9th January 2008 a young woman with a very promising future died at the hands of an ex boyfriend.

This act of violence is by no means an isolated incident. Violence particularly directed at women and girls continues to pervade our society today and casts a bleak stain on our country's perceived 'spotless' image. Sadly, statistics show no sign of improvement.

So often the horror we feel when confronted by such an act, is accompanied by a profound feeling of helplessness and hopelessness asking ourselves – What can we do?

Well Zontians, by accepting the Sophie Elliott Foundation as the 2014 -2016 Biennium Project you have already 'embraced the challenge' to help make change. By working together and enthusiastically supporting the Foundation, we can achieve much. Our efforts will assist the Foundation to produce high quality audio-visual resources for the programme along with the booklet entitled 'Loves Me Not (Sophie's Story – What We Missed)'. This booklet will provide an excellent resource which because it is presented in book form, will end up on a bookshelf as a valuable reference point rather than being forgotten under a bed. This booklet will be a free hand out to all students who attend the day long programme and all funds raised by Zonta will go towards producing this resource. 4000 of these booklets will be printed in 2014 at a cost of \$23000.00.

As Project Coordinator, I strongly encourage you to begin now to give this Biennium 2014 - 2016 project your urgent attention and as clubs together let us make a difference to the lives of the young women who are our future.

Put your collective heads together and come up with some creative and innovative ideas for fundraising for the Foundation. I would love to hear about what you are planning to do or what you have done. Let's share our stories and our plans. Let us go forward with this project as one and reinforce that violence is not OK! Zonta says NO!

Please contact me if you have any queries or thoughts. I am at – lynfarry@hotmail.com

Yours in Zonta

Lyn Farry

District Project Coordinator