Super Saturday Training: Your Leadership Journey

October 18, 2025: “International Relations”

Meeting Summary & Poll Results

Quick recap

The main focus was on Altrusa's international initiatives, where Laura Roach, District Nine Program Team International Relations Co-leader presented on the organization's global scope and shared examples of successful international service projects. The session concluded with discussions about specific international projects, including member engagement strategies and various fundraising initiatives, while emphasizing the importance of supporting global communities through Altrusa's international programs.

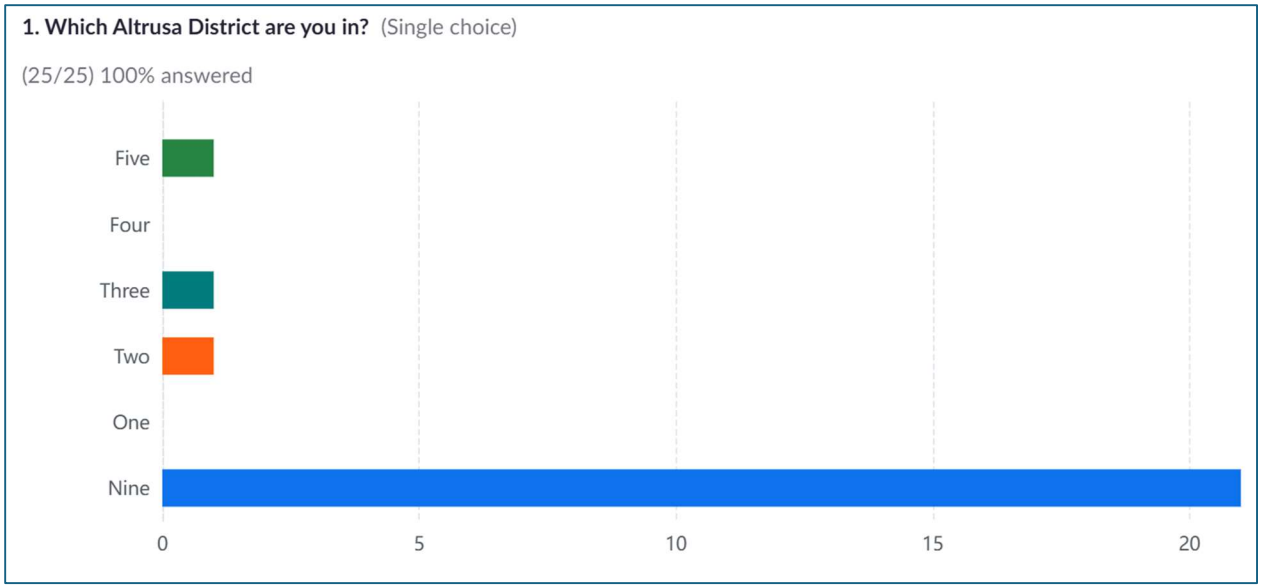
Next steps

- Laura to create and launch the interactive Google Sheet for International Relations projects on the District Nine website.
- Sharon to help with web design for the International Relations Team webpage on the District Nine website.
- Altrusa clubs to contribute to the Google Sheet once launched with information about their international projects.
- Altrusa clubs to consider designating a member responsible for International Relations.
- Kimberly to post information about Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF on the District Nine website.District Nine clubs to consider collecting BRAG money at meetings to be designated for UNICEF.

Summary

Strengthening International Community Locally

The meeting began with introductions and a poll to determine attendees' districts, revealing that 84% were from District Nine, with others from Districts 2, 3, 5, and 8. Altrusa emphasized the importance of International Relations projects and introduced Laura Roach, the District Nine Program Team Co-Leader for International Relations, as the speaker for the session. Attendees were encouraged to participate in interactive polls and chat features to engage with the content, with a dedicated Q&A session planned for the end. The session aimed to explore Altrusa's global scope and ways to strengthen the international community, starting locally.



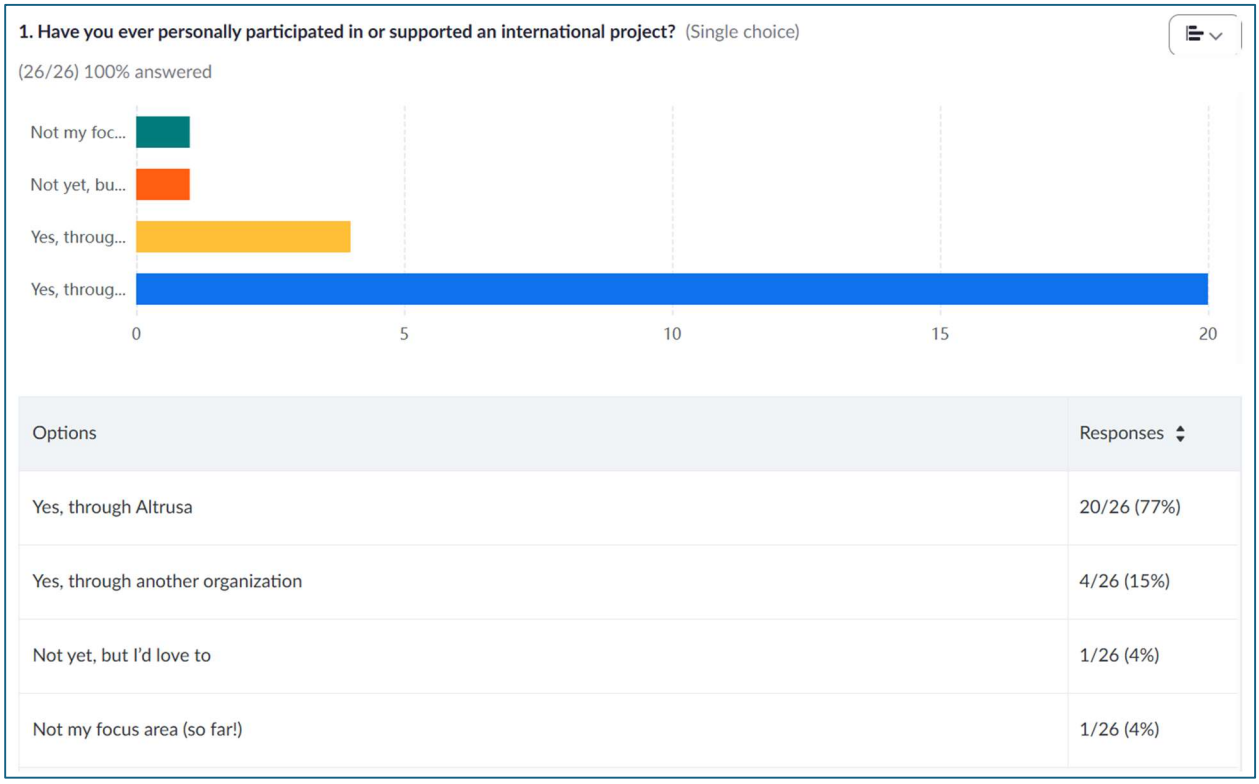


Options	Responses
Yes — we have one (or more)!	19/24 (79%)
Not currently, but we've discussed it	2/24 (8%)
Not yet, but we're interested	1/24 (4%)
Not at this time	2/24 (8%)

Altrusa's Global Service Initiatives

Laura discussed the concept of International Relations within Altrusa, emphasizing its integral role in the organization's identity and service activities. She highlighted that 79% of the clubs represented have one or more international service projects, and many members have individually participated in such projects. Laura shared a story to encourage members to embrace new experiences and opportunities, emphasizing the value of International Relations in promoting understanding and growth. The strategic plan for District Nine aims

to engage all clubs in international service projects, reflecting Altrusa's commitment to serving communities globally.



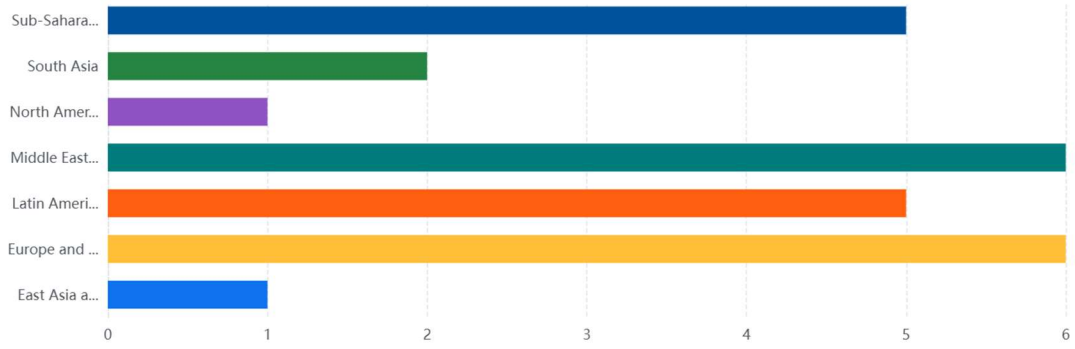
Options	Responses
Yes, through Altrusa	20/26 (77%)
Yes, through another organization	4/26 (15%)
Not yet, but I'd love to	1/26 (4%)
Not my focus area (so far!)	1/26 (4%)

Global Service Projects Resource Planning

The meeting focused on identifying communities in need outside the U.S. and exploring global service projects. Laura discussed various resources for learning about international communities, including Altrusa clubs, the United Nations website, and global charities. She announced a new Google Sheet initiative for District Nine members to log and share information about potential international service projects. The sheet will include categories such as country, community need, potential solutions, and club contact information. Laura emphasized the goal of building a comprehensive list of community needs and potential projects by the end of the Altrusa year.

1. Which global region are you most interested in learning about? (Single choice)

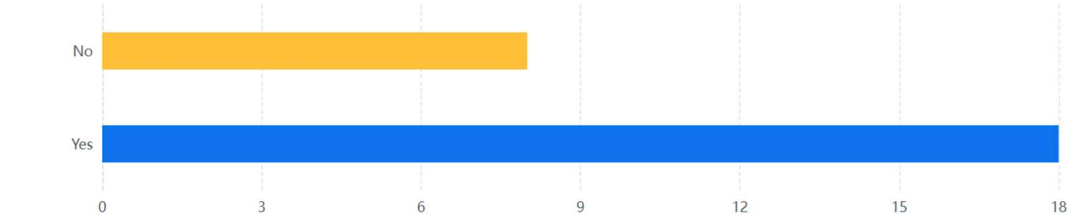
(26/26) 100% answered



Options	Responses
East Asia and Pacific	1/26 (4%)
Europe and Central Asia	6/26 (23%)
Latin America and Caribbean	5/26 (19%)
Middle East and North Africa	6/26 (23%)
North America	1/26 (4%)
South Asia	2/26 (8%)
Sub-Saharan Africa	5/26 (19%)

1. 10.4 Has your club previously researched prospective communities to support through a service project? (Single choice)

(26/26) 100% answered



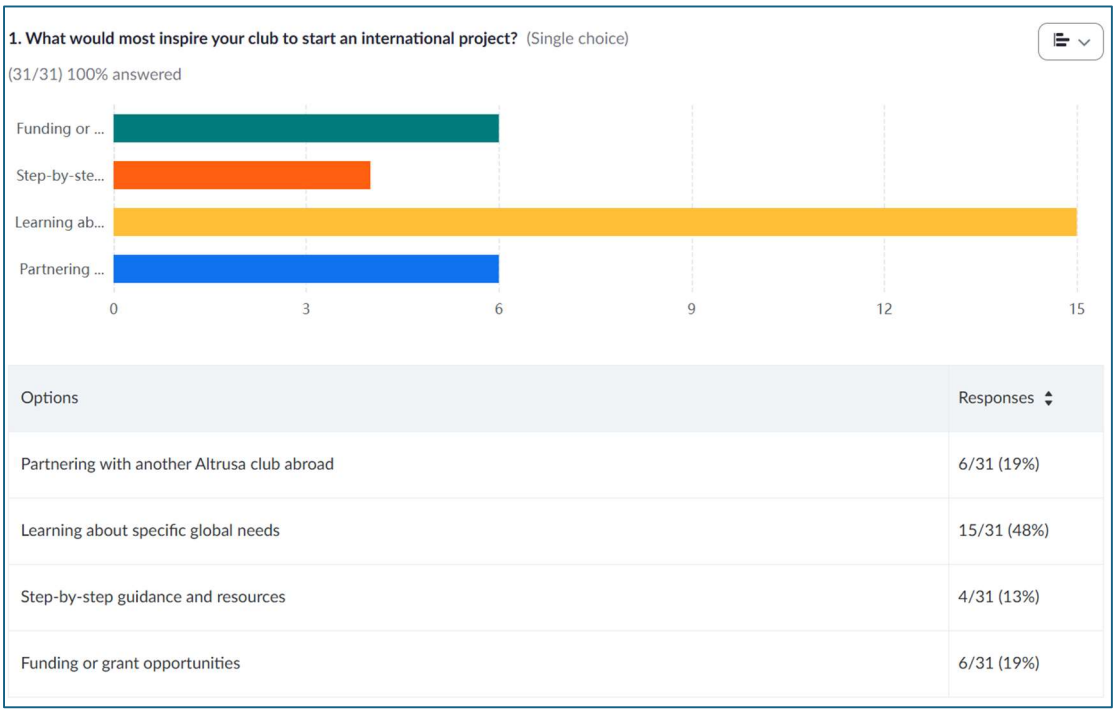
Options	Responses
Yes	18/26 (69%)
No	8/26 (31%)

Altrusa DFW's Global Charity Partners

Laura discussed three organizations supported by Altrusa DFW. The first is the Malaika Foundation, led by Betty Bingo, which provides care, education, and solar power to orphans in Uganda. The second is Munhu, founded by Sipo Gumbo, which helps orphaned children in Zimbabwe. The third is the International Culture Club, an informal group in Northeast Tarrant County that promotes cultural exchange and collects shoes for people in need in Colombia.

Altrusa International Collaboration Initiatives

The meeting focused on international projects and collaboration among Altrusa clubs. Laura presented poll results showing that members were most interested in learning about specific needs (48%) and partnering with other clubs abroad, rather than step-by-step guidance or funding opportunities. She encouraged clubs to appoint a point person for International Relations and suggested activities like food-focused events to engage members. The discussion also touched on the Nina Faye Calhoun International Relations Award, with nearly 48% of clubs reporting they had not submitted an application, while 30% were unsure.



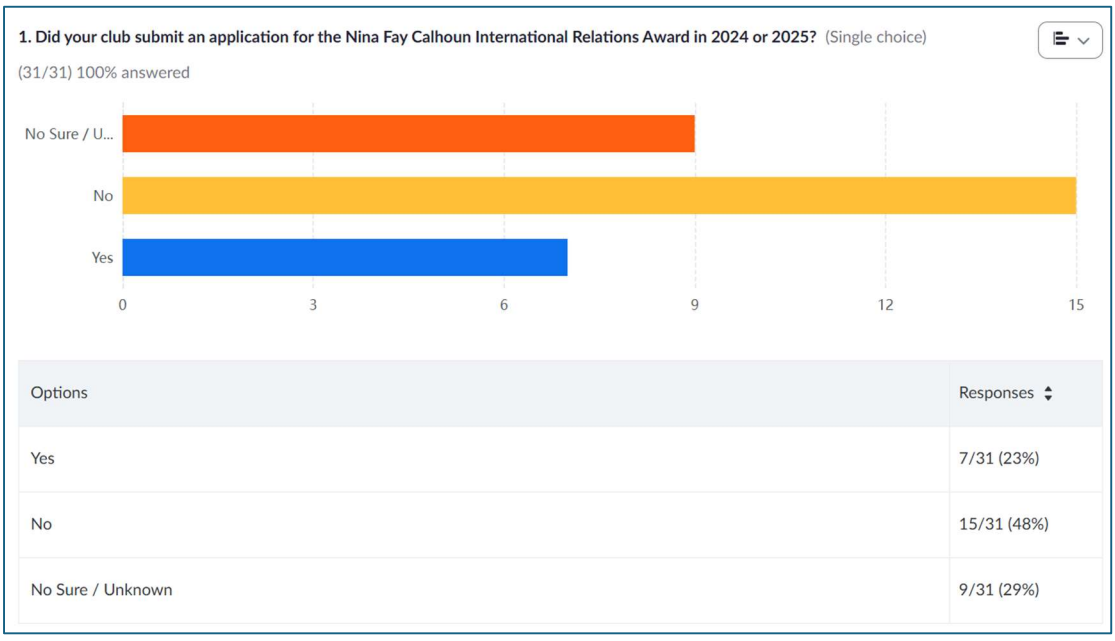
Options	Responses
Partnering with another Altrusa club abroad	6/31 (19%)
Learning about specific global needs	15/31 (48%)
Step-by-step guidance and resources	4/31 (13%)
Funding or grant opportunities	6/31 (19%)



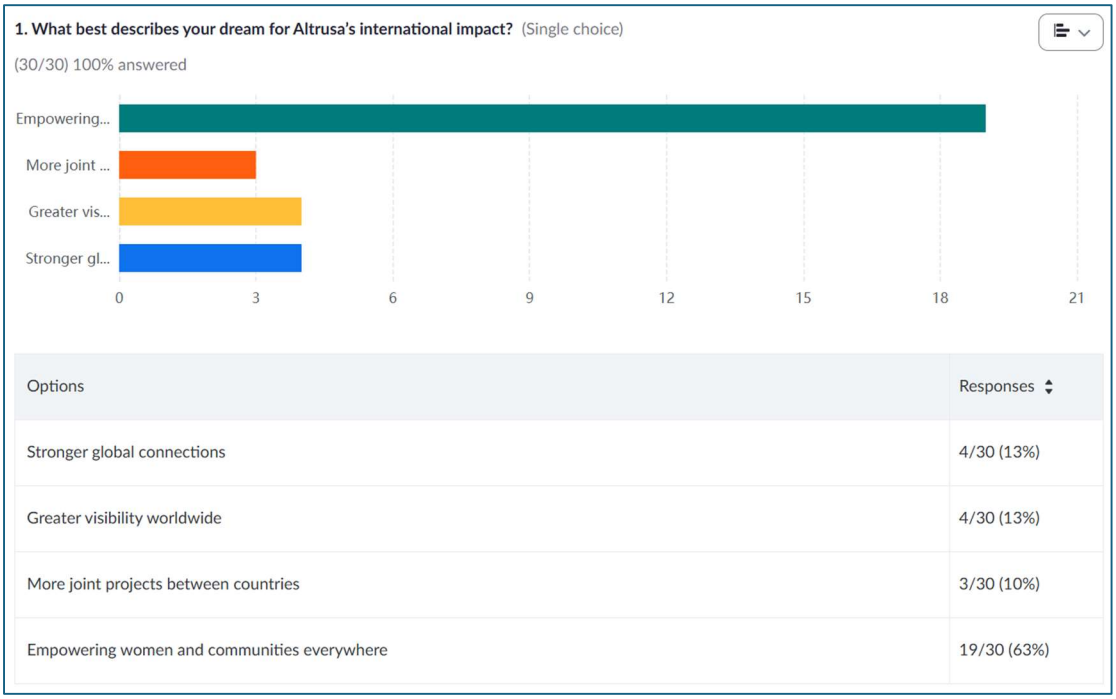
Options	Responses
Yes	10/30 (33%)
No	20/30 (67%)

Altrusa International Award Application Overview

The meeting focused on Altrusa's international initiatives, particularly the award application process. Laura explained that the application criteria are now more straightforward and less intimidating than in the past, with only 3 clubs applying last year, making it a good opportunity for other clubs to win. She outlined the key components of the application, including project objectives, implementation, resources, member involvement, and evaluation, and mentioned that the criteria are available on both the District Nine website's International Relations page and the awards tab under members-only. The discussion concluded with a poll on desired international impact outcomes, where empowering women in communities received the highest percentage at 63%.



Options	Responses
Yes	7/31 (23%)
No	15/31 (48%)
No Sure / Unknown	9/31 (29%)



Options	Responses
Stronger global connections	4/30 (13%)
Greater visibility worldwide	4/30 (13%)
More joint projects between countries	3/30 (10%)
Empowering women and communities everywhere	19/30 (63%)

Global Service Projects and Initiatives

The meeting focused on international service projects, with Laura presenting on Altrusa's international initiatives and sharing examples of member involvement.

Judy from District Two sought ideas for member engagement in their new project with the Vallarta School for Girls in Mexico, leading to a discussion of various approaches including fundraising activities, mission trips, and partnerships with existing organizations.

Members shared their own international projects, including book drives, scholarship programs, and sustainable development initiatives in Uganda and other countries, with Altrusa Richardson highlighting their long-running education scholarship program in Guatemala and Haiti.

The conversation ended with information about the Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF campaign as an easy way for clubs to support international causes, with some clubs reporting successful fundraising results from recent meetings.

Thank You for Attending!

Thank you all for attending today's **District Nine Leadership Journey** training on **International Relations Projects**.

We hope you leave inspired with new ideas on how to strengthen our international connections and create meaningful impact — both at home and around the world.

A special thank-you to our presenter, **Laura Roach**, for sharing her knowledge and passion for Altrusa's international service.

We appreciate your participation in today's polls and discussions — your engagement makes these sessions truly valuable.

Until next time, keep leading with purpose, kindness, and the spirit of Altrusa.

Kimberly Kierce, District Nine Governor

Zoom Chat Details

0:20:43	Barb Baker:	Good Morning!
0:20:47	iPhonemargie:	Good morning!
0:20:49	Laura Roach:	Welcome, everyone!
0:20:49	Barb Hahn - Pampa, District Nine:	Good Morning from Pampa, TX
0:21:06	Versie Lusk Southwest Dallas County:	Good Morning! SWDC
0:21:10	Charlotte Guidry:	Good morning
0:21:15	Kitty McElhaney:	Greetings from Florida!
0:21:48	Carol Bowens Arlington:	Good Morning, Carol - Arlington
0:21:57	Barbara:	Good morning! Barbara from District Eight.
0:42:45	Linda Hurt - DFW and District Nine:	Check the recording from last week's presidents' council meeting for lots of info on UN World Days--thanks to Jane Tucker who is also a chair of District Nine International Relations with Laura.
0:43:06	Sharon Tramonte (DN) SA, District Secretary:	Reacted to "Check the recording ..." with ❤
0:47:30	Barb Hahn - Pampa, District Nine:	Reacted to "Check the recording ..." with ❤
0:50:33	Altrusa District Nine:	Reacted to "Check the recording ..." with ❤
0:55:13	Sharon Tramonte (DN) SA, District Secretary:	It might be helpful if we knew where the "international" clubs are located.
0:57:19	Barb Hahn - Pampa, District Nine:	Reacted to "It might be helpful ..." with 👍
0:57:22	Kitty McElhaney:	The Clubs at Large are listed in Group Tally: India, has 3 Ireland has one.
0:57:58	Barb Hahn - Pampa, District Nine:	Reacted to "The Clubs at Large a..." with 👍
0:58:08	Sharon Tramonte (DN) SA, District Secretary:	Reacted to "The Clubs at Large a..." with 👍

1:01:51	Linda Hurt - DFW and District Nine:	Award criteria and application also under Awards sub-tab under "Members Only" on District Nine home page.
1:02:31	Sharon Tramonte (	Reacted to "Award criteria and a..." with 👍
1:03:19	Barb Hahn - Pampa, District Nine:	Reacted to "Award criteria and a..." with 👍
1:04:05	iPhonemargie:	Thank you Laura! Great presentation!
1:05:56	Versie Lusk Southwest Dallas County:	Thank you Laura.
1:13:32	Ann's Phone:	Pampa has partnered with another organization to buy books and desks and chairs in Uganda.
1:13:47	Laura Roach:	Reacted to "Pampa has partnered ..." with 💟
1:15:33	Altrusa District Nine:	Kiva is microfunding organization
1:16:40	Versie Lusk Southwest Dallas County:	SWDC did Dresses for girls in Africa.
1:17:01	Mary Standfield-Greenville:	Greenville partners with a local church's mission project. Yearly they go to Africa and partner with other organizations to build homes in a village. For $800 we can pay to build a home. The church is grateful and always gives great feedback, they present a program to us showing the homes we built and who received them.
1:17:48	lynne moore:	Two years ago Pampa did A project called Sole Hope. We used denim to make the upper part of shoes. Then shipped them to another location where they attached the soles. We included money with this project to then treat the recipients for a disease called jiggers.
1:18:20	Barb Hahn - Pampa, District Nine:	Reacted to "Two years ago Pampa ..." with 👍
1:18:35	J. Weeks:	Reacted to "Greenville partners ..." with 💟
1:18:54	J. Weeks:	Reacted to "Two years ago Pampa ..." with 💟
1:19:49	Ann's Phone:	Reacted to "SWDC did Dresses for..." with 💟
1:19:54	Ann's Phone:	Reacted to "Kiva is microfunding..." with 💟
1:20:20	Ann's Phone:	Thank you Laura!
1:20:52	lynne moore:	Thanks Laura!
1:20:56	RMS iPhone 16 (bt @ Apple Store 081625):	Some of us personally sponsor tuition for children in other countries. We could share that info with the club to generate additional ideas
1:21:08	Ann's Phone:	Reacted to "Some of us personall..." with 💟
1:21:15	Sharon Tramonte (DN) SA, District Secretary:	Reacted to "Two years ago Pampa ..." with 💟
1:21:20	Sharon Tramonte (DN) SA, District Secretary:	Reacted to "Some of us personall..." with 💟
1:21:29	Sharon Tramonte (DN) SA, District Secretary:	Reacted to "Greenville partners ..." with 💟
1:21:39	Sharon Tramonte (DN) SA, District Secretary:	Reacted to "SWDC did Dresses for..." with 💟
1:21:43	Barb Hahn - Pampa, District Nine:	Thank you for a great opportunity to learn more about other projects.
1:21:48	sherryburk:	Thank you, Laura! Very informative presentation!