

# ANNUAL REPORT 2018





**Fior Di Loto Foundation**

**About the founders**

**Our achievements**

**Workshops for our students**

**Your donations**

**Volley Challenge convention**

**Sewing Project**

**Breaking News!**

**Caring for the community**

**Contributing to self-employment**

**Collaboration with Sant Esteve School**

**Future goals for 2019**

**Volunteers work**





# FIOR DI LOTO FOUNDATION

Fior Di Loto Foundation is a charitable tax-free foundation helping Indian girls who do not have a chance to get any education in the neighboring village of Pushkar, state of Rajasthan northwest India.

In addition, we are improving the quality of life to the impoverished community. We work daily to help the most disadvantaged part of the local community by giving, for example, economical support to elderly people, widows and needy families, medical assistance to sick people, building water wells, and in general, doing our best holding out a helping hand to those who need it.



## Our main goals

As an NGO our education concerns lie on making available free education for 1,000 girls in Pushkar, plus another 1,000 girls in 3 more locations in India and providing college education to the most gifted girls or free coaching those who prefer to work.

Besides, when it comes to the wellbeing of the community, some of our aims are to increase the number of poor families supported by our food program and of sick people who receive free medicine thanks to our Annie Elliot project, drill additional water wells and help more people on their way into self-employment by purchasing more rickshaws and sewing machines.

***“All students have their own unique and special talent”.***

*- Mara, Interational President of Fior Di Loto Foundation*



# ABOUT THE FOUNDERS



## **Mara Sandri, International President**

Mara was born in Bologna, Italy. Since she was very young, she has maintained an interest in helping others. During her time in Italy, she worked for a government office, serving people.

When she moved to the Dominican Republic, she opened her hotel business. There she has built a reputation for improving and saving people's lives. After visiting India in 1983, she found India to be her spiritual home and here she felt was her true calling for helping others.



## **Guadalupe Tapia Paykar, Secretary**

Guadalupe was born in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. She grew up in a small neighborhood in a big family. They always helped each other and giving and sharing was their sense of pride.

As a teenager, she worked in a community program. Later, as a sociologist, she developed programs for women's organizations in rural areas. She is proud to be part of the "Fior di Loto Foundation" because she believes that education can change and improve the life of many. Today she is the inspiration of the foundation.



## **Deepu Maharshi, President in INDIA**

Deepu was born in the holy town of Pushkar, India. He is a Brahmin (Priest). His dream is to build a free school where everyone can attend. When he met Mara and Guadalupe, his dream came true through the "Fior di Loto Foundation". Doing this social work, he says: "It feels like heaven".

He has promised to work only for this foundation until he grows too old. Today Deepu is the anchor of the foundation in Pushkar.



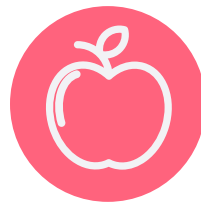
# OUR ACHIEVEMENTS



Throughout 2018 we have been able to expand and improve existing projects as well as creating new ones. Our concerns go far beyond educational purposes but to improve the wellbeing of the whole community. For that reason, among our priorities there are also providing food, clothes and minimum wage for the needy.



Providing education for 610 students



Distributing 60 food packages to families in need per month



Providing a monthly pension check for 31 elderly people and widows



101 teachers from all over Rajasthan were honored with an award by the Fior Di Loto Foundation on the occasion of the teachers' day, September 5



Giving away 610 party dresses for the Diwali celebration in October



Making an annual donation for street dogs



## WORKSHOPS FOR OUR STUDENTS

The initiative of the spanish volunteer and teacher Carmen Paja made it possible to expand the music programme of the school. Carmen taught the senior girls of the center how to play the Spanish guitar, thanks to the donation of three of these instruments. Besides, during the classes an Indian teacher was also present to learn from scratch along with the rest of the students, in order to continue teaching herself to lower grades once Carmen left.

*“The students really love singing and having the opportunity to learn to play an instrument”.*

During the classes traditional Indian songs are sung together acapella or accompanied by the guitar. Little by little they improve their skills with this instrument. When they sing, they look very ha-

ppy. Music is a way to liberate the spirit and be free. In addition, what makes this programme relevant is that ultimately the older students will be able to teach what they have learned to the youngest girls, fostering collective learning and strengthening their relationships of friendship, respect for others and their commitment to education.

### **A wide range of diferent activities**

This summer we were able to had yoga classes with the help of Amanda from Australia as a teacher. We also learned following the Bronnik Method from the experienced hand of Emanuela Le Bimbe from Italy.

Besides, the volunteers prepared different craft and art workshop that the kids enjoyed a lot. Plus, they helped decorating the school by painting some beautiful wall paintings.



## Computer classes



## Yoga classes



## Decorating the school



## Craft workshops







# YOUR DONATIONS

## Step by step

This summer we received a generous donation from Mina (Japan) which included 30 fans, 2 laptops for the computer class, 1 printer for its use in the school director's office, 10 carpets for tiffin time, 4 big carpets for the kinder garden classrooms, 4 sewing machines, 9 curtains and 12 white boards. We also received a huge donation from Fegi (Suisse) and Monica (Switzerland) that consists of a uniform for the school's watchman, a cam for school security, 2 laptops for computer classes, 4 white boards for the new 4 class rooms, 12 stools for teachers, 3 dustbins, a puzzle game for kindergarden and one year of feminine-hygiene supplies. Plus, Carmen and Loli from Spain donated 1 laptop for the direction school office, 3 guitars, 1 armonium and 2 flutes to improve music class. We appreciate the involvement of all those who contribute to the improvement of our school.





# VOLLEY CHALLENGE CONVENTION



On the left, all the girls with teachers and volunteers in the event.

Uber Franchi Volvo's friends from Italy organized for the first time a Fior Di Loto Volley Challenge with a winner prize of 16.200 rupies to divide on the first, second, third and fourth place. The students had a lot of fun participating in sport activities and enjoying of a great day outdoors on that school trip.

The kindly trainer volunteers Nela, from Ceckz Republic and Maka from Spain, participated in the activities along with the students girls.

*Thank you girls and thank you Uber Franchi for your support, the event was a huge success!*





# SEWING PROJECT

A donation of a few sewing machines allowed us to start a new training programme to teach girls how to sew, an activity that can be very valuable for their future as it allows them to be seamstresses and to be able to aspire to set their own business in the future.







Peita from Australia gave free sewing classes to a group of Fior Di Loto students, a practical skill which can provide them of the proper techniques and approaches to get closer to the tailor industry of Pushkar. These lessons are a golden opportunity for those girls to become economically independent, as well as becoming a powerforce in the labour market, a sector in which they can hopefully prosper and start their own business.

### Empowering women

A generous donation of six sewing machines along with scissors and tailor material was provided to six families of our students so they can use them and make their living out of it.







## Their stories

Indira Gujar was a tailor who was now working as a temple sweeper because her sewing machine was rusted and broken. We donated her a new sewing machine which will allow her to support better her five daughters.

Nalini Tailor had to sell her machine and table to pay for her husband hospital bills. She sobbed and wept in relief after we assessed their situation and told her we would provide her a whole new sewing equipment.

Pari Jingar's older sister and mother will use another of our new sewing machines, plus the older sister will get a free course month to learn to use the machine.

Lalita Dhanka and her mother will use another machine as they have a sewing table at home because her grandmother used to be a tailor. Mara believes Lalita has a talent for fashion design.

Payal Rawat and her mother learned really quickly to use the machine and they both feel very enthusiastic about it.

Both Kushubu Kanwar and her mother will use the sewing machine and will take advantage of one month of sewing lessons.

Each of those women were given a new Arjun sewing machine, tailor scissors, clippers, a box of 80 cotton reels, sewing needles, machine needles, a box of tailors chalk, tailors tape, measure rules and a large maintenance screwdriver.





# BREAKING NEWS!



## One of our student is now a nurse!

Our dear student Ritu Tailor who studied nursing was recently selected for a job at Aiiims, a big hospital in India.

Being able to send a student to college is a huge success for us, as education is not as accessible for everyone as it usually is in western countries.

***Congratulations to everyone that make it possible!***

### **Her story**

She lost her father a few years ago due to cancer and the Fior Di Loto Foundation supported not only her studies but also the education of her brother and sister. In addition, we provided her of food packages every month so their mother and siblings would not starve.



A picture of Ritu Tailor.

### **It's time to celebrate**

We want to congratulate other students: Ritu Partibha and Varsha to become a nurse and Nirma because she will finish her year as a PTI teacher. Also Twinkle for passing the Governament test, she will soon become a lawyer. In total we have 10 students we mentored who graduate soon!

***We are very proud of you!***

# CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY



Another important task for Fior Di Loto team is to deliver the monthly food packages we supply for families in need in Pushkar. Thanks to our friendly volunteers we manage to distribute all the food in time.

Besides, as part of our social programme for the well-being of our community, we provide a monthly check that works as a pension for the elderly people in Pushkar. If it wasn't for that pension check they would not have enough to make ends meet as they are widowers and widows who live below the poverty line.



On top and above, the volunteers helping with the monthly distribution of food packages for people in need.

On the left, providing a pension check for the widower.



# CONTRIBUTING TO SELF-EMPLOYMENT



Uber also helped us on another of our projects. They helped to grow the business of the father of two of our students by adding food supplies at his tea shop. Below, you can see the three of them at the Om Pushkar Cafe shop they run in our village.



*Thank you Uber  
for having faith in  
us and believing  
so much in this  
project!*





# BUILDING A NEW HOME



Uber has helped Fior Di Loto many times. This time they bought a land for the value of 3300€ with the aim to build a house worth 4500€ for Nirma Giri, a student of Psysical Training who lived in extremely precary conditions. So, not only does now Nirma's family have the ownership of their own land but also the project of a future new home. The Association of Parents (AMPA) of Sant Esteve School from Barcelona (Spain) sent 566€ as a donation for the contruccion of the building. Consequently, we already need 4000€ to complete the house for Nirma Giri.

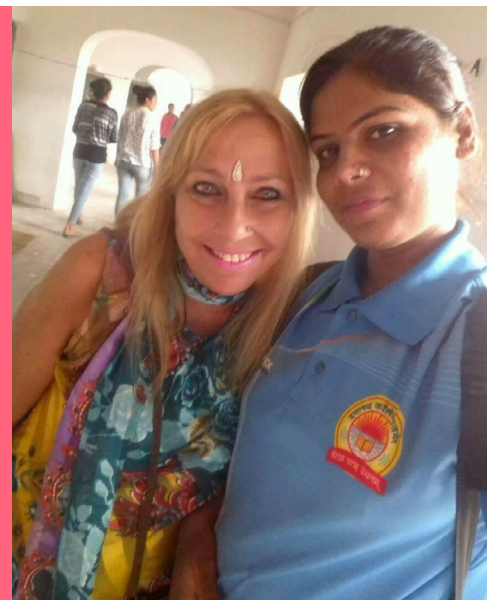


Above, you can see the foundations of the house and on the left, some volunteers setting the first stone to build the bathroom. Below, the picture of Mara, the International President of Fior di Loto, and Nirma Giri, the needy student.

## Help Nirma's family

The project must keep going on as soon as it can to provide Nirma's family of a proper house so their life situation can finally improve.

If you are willing to help, you can make a [donation](#) on our website or become an active member of the Fior Di Loto team by becoming a [sponsor](#) on this project or another you may prefer.





# COLLABORATION WITH SANT ESTEVE SCHOOL



Ten years ago, the Sant Esteve School of Barcelona (Spain) came together with the Fior Di Loto Foundation. On December 14th of 2018, the Sant Esteve school celebrated the Christmas fair with several activities to raise funds for our organisation, in order to help us improve the conditions and the quality of the education for many girls in Rajastán, India.

We would like to thank Sant Esteve School for making us part of such a special day. We do appreciate and treasure all the efforts of all the students and families who collaborated in the sale of arts and crafts done by the students themselves, the basket raffle and the participation of the Bollywood dancer Isaac from the center "Som Bollywood" in Terrassa.



*Thank you,  
you make  
our dreams  
come true!*





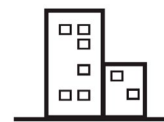
# FUTURE GOALS FOR 2019



One of our objectives is to provide education for more girls in the area of Rajasthan, with the hope of collaborating with new centers and expanding our educational support network to provide girls with higher education like access to university.



Expand the range of beneficiary families in our social food and pension programs will always be on our list of priorities, as well as providing vaccines for stray dogs to improve the health conditions of the whole neighborhood.



Thanks to your donations we hope to continue improving the school facilities with new school material and equipment for the students, with the aim of having a wider variety of material for the current classrooms and start new training programs.

## Help us make our dreams come true!

There are many ways for you to get involved in our project. Join our community and participate actively for Fior Di Loto Foundation by making a donation to fund our projects or become a sponsor, so together we can change the course of as many lives as possible. Go to our [web page](#) to find our more!



# VOLUNTEERS WORK

It is thanks to our sponsors and volunteers that we can continue working on projects that help improve the education of our students and, accordingly, the welfare of the whole community. Help comes in many forms and always from very different places. Therefore, we want to thank each and every one of you for your commitment and support without which the Fior Di Loto community would not have grown all over the world.



Become a [volunteer](#) for Fior Di Loto Foundation, we need you!





## **FIOR DI LOTO FOUNDATION**

Pushkar, Rajasthan INDIA

International President: Mara Sandri

Secretary: Guadalupe Tapia Paykar

President in India: Deepu Maharshi

---

## **FIOR DI LOTO Annual Report 2018**

Coordination: Mara

Collaboration: Guadalupe, Deepu, Mara

Design and layout: Laura Trilla Pérez

Translation: Laura Trilla Pérez

All image rights belong to Fior Di Loto Foundation

Creative Commons BY-NC-ND 4.0

---

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION AND UPDATES ABOUT OUR WORK**

Visit [www.fiordilotoindia.org](http://www.fiordilotoindia.org)

Join us on our [Facebook page](#)

---

## **HELP OUR FOUNDATION GROW**

Would you like to make a [donation](#)?

Want to become a [volunteer](#)?