

# ANNUAL REPORT 2020





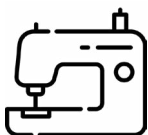
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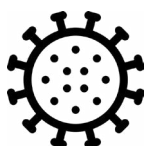
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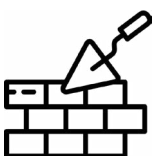
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# OUR MISSION

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

We are improving the quality of life to the impoverished community. And working 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.

Fior di Loto is a project that was born in Pushkar in 2003. We realized that help was needed in this community and we decided to give our best with passion and enthusiasm. From that day we became a strong family and nothing will stop us from keeping on with it!

1

## Education

We provide education and scholarships to those girls who want to pursue higher education.

2

## Economic support

The organization creates social programmes like economic aids for the elderly.

3

## Medical care

We provide medical assistance to those who can't afford it.

4

## Housing

The help of funding campaigns helps to build houses.

# 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 a hotel business. There she has built a reputation for improving and saving people's lives. After visiting India in 1983, she found it to be her spiritual home and there she felt a 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.



# Education

Although this year has been very rough due to the effects of the pandemic in India, we have been able to provide education for our girls, and even help some of them pursue a higher education.

661

Free Education  
Girls in School

1

Ajmer's School for  
the deaf

1

girl studying  
law

1

girl studying  
nursing





# Music

## ABOUT THE MUSIC PROJECT

### A letter from Carmen

In 2018 we started a beautiful project of singing classes of bhajans with guitars after a donation of musical instruments (3 guitars, 2 flutes and a harmonium), the most beautiful gift is that with these few resources about 12 girls were progressing in a certain way magical and that due to the covid we have had to stop but with the hope that very soon we can resume this wonderful initiative that makes both them and me super happy because I have received more than I could imagine.

Without more something with the heat of eternity.

At your service,

Carmen Paja

Music teacher at Fior Di loto

In the photos, Carmen and the students in 2020 before the Covid-19 pandemic.







# Poi-workshop

In the photos that follow, Ricarda with the students, in 2020 before the Covid-19 pandemic.



## ABOUT THE POI-WORKSHOP

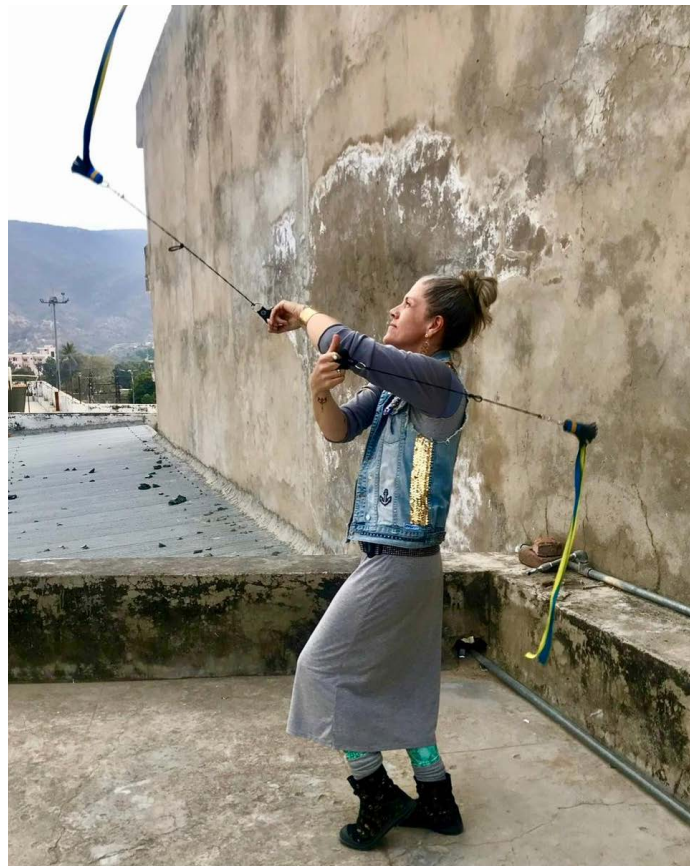
# A letter from Ricarda

Namaste everybody!

My name is Ricarda and i come from germany. I normaly come every year to Pushkar. I love to spend time with the girls and tought them something. In january/february 2020, before pandemic full started i offered to our 8.class to do poi-workshop. First we did freeplay with this. So the girls could experience how many different moves they can do with pois. Also i had somd hand-arm-spirals to do movement with them. I showed them how to do exactly. It tooks a lot of sensitive steps. Our result show was in 2small groups with dancing und using pois and handspirals.

It was lots of fun, experience, proud feelings and teamghost. Full power.

One love,  
Ricarda



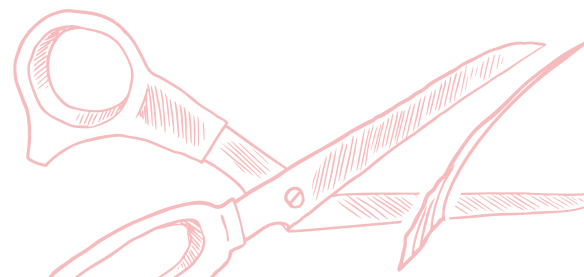
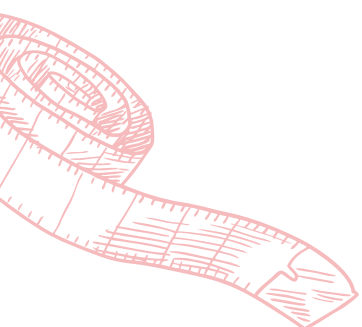
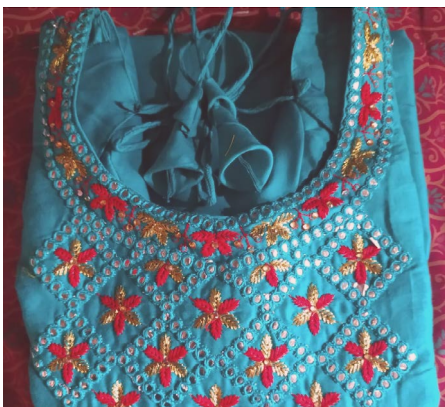




# SEWING PROJECT



This year, we continued the sewing classes where students are taught how to sew, which can provide them with financial independence in the future. The Pushkar Project for Women, a Fior Di Loto annex project outside the school which gives local women the education, means and materials to make sewing their livelihood, is also active.







## ABOUT THE SEWING PROJECT

### A letter from Peita

*"In 2020 as most of the world came to a stop we all found new ways to adapt...and our wonderful tailor teachers and students continued to be creative and busy from their homes.*

*Teachers Pooja and Bharti are talented designers and their flair for design and high quality level of teaching have also showed through in their students. The two sisters also had some garment work from local companies and got super busy making masks for their family, neighbours and some local orders during lockdown.*

*The students were also busy at home cutting and stitching their own beautiful designs and some of the women had finishing orders from local garment businesses.*

***These wonderful young women constantly inspire me and bring me joy***

*Of course 2020 saw little or no school and no travel so our lovely sewing class for 5 and 6 could not happen but I'm sure that any of the girls who were to participate will have been hand stitching or machine tailoring from home.*

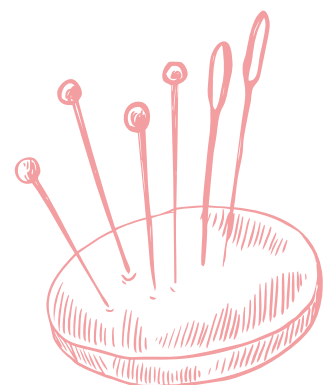
*The energy enthusiasm and ambition from these wonderful young women constantly inspire me and bring me joy. To know that this sewing project in the Fior Di Loto school and the annex tailor school is providing skills, developing creativity, bringing social connection...even in lockdown while working together from separate homes*

*and providing young women the possibility and opportunity for an income for their futures and the joy that comes from making your own beautiful clothes.*

*As we continue through life as it is now in this difficult time for the world I wish for everyone hope, strength and love. I request to please help each other...if you have, give to those who have not.*

*Loving kindness to all.*

*Peita"*







Since March 22 India entered in a full lockdown as many other countries around the globe.



# Food packages

Food packages were delivered every week by our volunteers in Fior di Loto Foundation.



10 Kg. of chapati flour



1 Kg. of dal (lentils)



1L. of oil



1 Kg. of oats



1 Kg. of salt



250 gr. of turmeric powder



250 gr. of coriander



# 3000

## Covid Relief Family Food Packs

As you all know, Luli was in charge of the school renovation project when the lockdown caught her in Pushkar and she decided to stay and not return to her country; aware that most of the population in India lives on daily income, Luli decided to donate the remaining money from the renovation of the school to provide food packages to 40 families during the hard times of the lockdown.

When she told Dalia Salem, a friend and confinement partner at the hotel, she was motivated to help and try to raise money.

Both inadvertently became involved in the so needed project of providing food aid to those suffering the consequences of the Lockdown. For more than two months it was possible to raise funds and help with 3,000 food packages to the population of Pushkar and surrounding municipalities.

While Luli and Dalia had to be locked up in the hotel, Deepu Maharshi, our brother and founder of the school right with his wife, Laxmi Maharshi, and children were working extremely hard every day to be able to manage these packages. The calls Deepuji received were daily and too numerous. Deepuji once again has shown us how his dedication is of pure love and heart and how even in times when many feared for their own health, both Deepuji, his family and his people put the needs of others before their own.

Proud and grateful for the teamwork that we were able to make, thanks to all the donations we received, thanks to the heart and solidarity of the donors and of course thanks to the dedication of our wonderful Covid Team.

In the picture above (from left to right), Deepu, Dalia and Luli.





# 31

Pensions for Widows  
and the elderly

# 125

Supply of monthly  
food packages



After delivering these 3000 packages during the first two months of confinement, the foundation has managed to supply packages with food to 125 families monthly, plus some extras that we have been able to deliver depending on the donations that we have been receiving throughout this time.

This past year we also had the enormous help of one of our sponsors who managed to raise money to help 31 widows throughout 2020. It was such a huge blessing to our widows since the project had no funds and we doubted if we could continue helping them during 2020.







“

*Deepuji once again has shown us how his dedication is of pure love and heart, and how, even in times when many feared for their own health, both Deepuji, his family and his people put the needs of others before their own.*

”



# Reiki babies

The Reiki Babies project is a health programme started by the Fior di Loto Foundation with the aim to help young girls and women without resources to give birth in a suitable and safe environment: the Shyama Bagh Memorial Hospital in Pushkar. The cost of each birth and mother's care is £50 (60€). This year, despite Covid-19, we managed to provide care for 64 mothers and their babies. Such a huge achievement!

In the photo, Reena Modi Bagh holding a baby from the Reiki Babies project.

64

babies safely  
delivered

64

mothers well  
attended



## ABOUT THE REIKI BABIES

### A letter from Carole

1/2/2019

Today is a very special day for me as founder of the Knottingley Reiki Group UK.

My friend of almost 17 years Deepu Maharshi introduced me to a lady named Reena Modi Bagh. We spoke of the plight of woman/ girls from some of the poorest areas and the difficulties they encountered during pregnancy and childbirth.

We decided we all wanted a safe and secure environment for these ladies to receive medical help and the best experience possible when bringing their children into the world.

Reiki Babies came from this conversation. The babies would be born in Shyama Bagh Memorial Hospital in Pushkar.

The cost of delivering a baby and any medical treatment the mother may need would be €60. The mother will be given advice and support throughout as will the baby, who will also receive a certificate of birth.

*We all wanted a safe and secure environment for these ladies to receive medical help and the best experience possible when bringing their children into the world.*

On 3/2/2019 our first Reiki baby was delivered safely, since that time 64 babies have been born and 64 mothers have had the support and care they deserve.

I would like to give a massive thank you to Deepu Maharshi to Reena ModiBag, to every person that has sponsored this wonderful program and to the amazing lady that is Mara Sandri, the founder of Fior Di Loto.

I received this message from the wonderful lady that delivers all our Reiki babies Reena Modi Bagh. I spent a day with Reena teaching her energy healing on our visit to Pushkar.



In the photo at the top, Carole Williams holding a baby along Reena Modi Bagh.

Message:

*"Hello everyone! I can't stop writing because this baby is really a miracle!*

*As you know it is time of lockdown! Membrane rupture 3 days before ! mother of baby waited long to deliver at home because it is difficult to come to hospital ! When she came condition not good ! Internal OS is not dialeted ! keep her waiting with drugs but nothing worked! I was really worried !! then I remember Carole and start doing Quantum!! in 15 min when I check it is already 3 fingers dialeted and at 5 pm the mother had this beautiful baby!*

*Dear Carole life is full of miracles only we have to believe in it !!thanks!! thanks to all sponsors to all dear friends dear mara ji dear Godalupeji and last but not least Deepuji who constantly encourages me!! Today is big day! Another day of success, a reason to smile."*

Every day I give thanks for my visit to Pushkar in December 2002. I met the wonderful Deepu Maharshi for the first time on that visit, this truly changed my life.

Carole Williams UK Ambassador

2002



2019



In the photos, Deepu Maharshi and Carole Williams.





“

*This photo was taken in the hospital just one day after the delivery of child I sponsor in the Fior Di Loto project called Reiki Babies. I am accompanied in the photo by a group of women with whom I was guiding on a tour in India and Rina, the director of the hostel.*

*We were amazed by the cleanliness of the facilities and the formidable treatment the women who give birth in this hospital received. We were so pleased that all the women from my traveling group sponsored more babies. We are delighted of this great work.*

*– Carmen Paja, volunteer and music teacher in Fior di Loto school.*

”



# Construction

The Fior di Loto Foundation was able to finish the construction of a house for Nirma Giri Goswami our student from Fior Di Loto now graduated as a sports teacher and currently working as a school teacher. Construction work stopped because of the pandemic. Thanks to all the donors: Carlo Venturi, Franchi Uber Ampa, Ana, Xavi, Miroslav, Tonkli, Ri-

carda Kliesch, Finn Kliesch, Tiko, Nico, Maren foundation, Donna Cimorelli, Supernatura and Emanuela Schiavina.







# Construction

The renovation of our beautiful school was completed by Luli in mid-July. Until March the main purpose was to finish the school, with all the classes and exteriors renewed.

And so, it happened ... The basic painting of the school and renovation of walls, exteriors and bathrooms was completed before India went into lockdown on March 22!

After the two months of confinement in the hotel, Luli decided to go back to school and finish it as she envisioned it when the renovation began, full of love and decoration details that made each class a little different.

The confinement paralyzed the world and in turn gave Luli time to finish her project with all the details and the love that she wanted for the girls. The renovation of our school was completed after 6 months of constant work and dedication to our girls.

## ABOUT THE REFORM PROJECT

### A letter from Luli

*"I have to admit that it is the hardest and most beautiful job I have ever done in my life.*

*I knew what I was doing, and the effort involved in the reform of the school ... What I did not know is that every day I would attend school with the intention of renewing it ... Something was in turn renewing and healing within me.*

*I must thank each person who helped me reform the school by dedicating their time and work by my side. To thank those who, seeing the project that I had gotten myself into, decided to help me and donated to help me with the expenses. And thanks to the Mantras for the cleansing and healing that they have done in my being during this beautiful project. Thank you Thank you Thank you"*



# Construction

We want to thank the donors of the Fegi Foundation in Switzerland, as well as its founder, Monica, for the help received, since its contribution helped 110 families during the covid pandemic. We also want to thank Monica for sponsoring a year of monthly food aid for Vishnu Nayak. Finally, we thank all those who have made a donation in the fundraising for the future construction of a house for the Mali family.

In the photo, from left to right, Deepu Maharshi, Mara and Monica before the Covid-19 pandemic.





# Our supporters

In the photo above, Deepu, Mara and two of our beloved supporters, Lucy and Yak from United Kingdom in our school in Pushkar, back into 2018.

## FUNDRAISING FOR FIOR DI LOTO

### A letter from Lucy & Yak ltd

*"We met Deepu & Mara three years ago in Pushkar, we were blown away by what they have achieved with Fior Di Loto, and their genuine passion for helping young girls receive an education. We began supporting the school through donations from our clothing business, and each year we try to get out to visit the school a few times per year. Covid has meant that we haven't been able to visit for a long time, but we really miss the team and all of the girls, we can see the huge benefit the school has had on the community in Pushkar. We hope they can continue their great work for many years."*

*With the benefits from their clothing business from Black Friday 2020, this couple has sponsored 84 girls as well as the pension project for widowers and the elderly.*



## FUNDRAISING FOR FIOR DI LOTO

# Sant Esteve School

This year the Sant Esteve School from Barcelona (Spain) was unable to celebrate its traditional Christmas Fair for the benefit of Fior di Loto (its sister school in India). The pandemic did not allow families, students and teachers to fill their yards with crafts made with great enthusiasm, waiting to be sold to send the money collected to Pushkar. Nor could they dance Bollywood songs, which is already common every year on this day. But they were able to keep the Christmas Basket Giveaway. As every year, they prepared baskets with typical Christmas food and products that the families had previously brought to the center. So, in advance, the teachers sold the ballots at the doors during the times of entering and leaving the center. And on the selected day, a raffle was made with representation of the families and the school. The winning ballots were posted on the web. And one more year they were able to collaborate in the improvement of the education for the girls of Fior di Loto.



*One more year they were able to collaborate in the improvement of the education for the girls of Fior di Loto.*

We will soon celebrate 10 years since the families of the school collaborate in a personal way with the Foundation, elaborating a cooperation plan with our school that, is presented to the town hall in order to get some extra funding. Finally they send us the grant money directly to Pushkar.

In the photos, both teachers and students selling tickets for the Christmas Basket Giveaway.





# How to help

There are many ways to get involved in the Fior di Loto project. Contribute and your will be by our side in every step of the way as we help this community. Would you like to participate?



## DONATE

Make a donation  
no matter the quantity

[HERE](#)



## SPONSOR

Help plan our day-to-day life  
with a regular economic  
contribution

[HERE](#)



## VOLUNTEER

Join our volunteer  
program in India

[HERE](#)



# SUPPORT US

With your help and contribution you can shape the future of a whole community in India.

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







## FIOR DI LOTO Annual Report 2020

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This digital magazine is not intended for commercial purposes. This magazine was designed by Laura Trilla, a graphic designer from Barcelona who visited Fior di Loto's school in 2018 and decided to work on this editorial project for free as a gift to the foundation. You can contact her on Instagram @lauratrilla or email lauratrilla95@gmail.com.

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