



# FOUNDATION FIOR DI LOTO Annual Report 2021



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As you know, this year 2021 has been the second year that we have lived with the Coronavirus pandemic. In India the situation has been difficult, but even so, we are very proud of the help we have been able to provide to the community of Pushkar. With your help we have continued with the educational work at Fior di Loto school, training 550 girls; as well as providing scholarships for the eight young women who continue to pursue their studies in higher education.

On the other hand, another project that has been crucial this year was the distribution of food packages to those who needed it: mostly families from the school and widows or widowers who do not have a pension.

We have also continued the Reiki Babies project, a program to help women during childbirth; as well as the construction program to be able to provide decent housing to those who need it. Below, you will find more information about each program and the accomplishments that we have achieved together throughout this 2021. Once again, thank you for staying by our side.

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# **Our school**



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## UNIFORMS

The delivery of the uniforms is also an important day for our little ones. This uniform is much more than a piece of clothing, it represents for them the pride of being able to receive an education and the illusion deposited in their future.

In the photos we can see Deepu, President of Fior di Loto, and the director of the center handing out the uniforms free of charge.



In the photo below, a proud father with his five daughters, all of them with scholarships at the Fior di Loto school.





# We are really proud of you girls!

Like every year, our president Deepu Maharsi delivered packages of books and school supplies to the students of the school. Checks were also handed out to cover school fees and exams for the girls who are pursuing higher education.

We are very happy to announce that this year the Foundation has been able to grant scholarships to a girl who attends the special school for the deaf-mute in Ajmer, a girl who goes to law school, two more who are taking the nursing course, three who are studying to be librarians and one more who attends the ophthalmology assistant course.











## 8

girls are studying to get their carrers



**Our dedication** to the girls of the school never ceases. We work for them every day. For them we create a better future.



On the left, our beloved Pinky; who was a student at the school a long time ago and now works as a teacher in our team at Fior di Loto. Thank you for your dedication!





In the photo, Deepu with **Claire Bullivant and Renald** Fourges, two of our sponsors from France who visited the foundation this year.



# Food sponsorship



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During 2021, food packages were distributed to 125 families, most of whom are the families of the school's students. This year, some widows and widowers who do not have a pension and depend on this monthly help to live have also been added to the food package.

### **FOOD PACKAGES**

Kalan





2791

food packages delivered

#### Join the Family Food Sponsorship

In the photos you can see Deepu, President of Fior di Loto in India, distributing the food packages together with Ana Segurola and Antonio García who are sponsors of a girl from the foundation. On the right, Miroslav Tonkli, another of our sponsors. Thank you for your invaluable help!

During this time, medications were also provided; plus a monthly allowance of Rs 7,000 from September 2021 to May 2022.





Food sponsorships were vital for many families during the pandemic

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Our tireless President Deepu Maharshi deliverd food to families in need throughout 2021. This time Andrea Davies and her friend Nicole joined the activity.



# Thanks for such great work!

## **CELEBRATING DIWALI**

On the other hand, 550 families received packages of sweets on the occasion of the Diwali festival, also known as the festival of lights, which is the most important celebration in India.







## 550

families received sweets to celebrate Diwali



On the 8th of March of 2021, on the occasion of Women's Day, the Fior di Loto Foundation distributed food packages to the 250 women who attended the celebration.

## **WOMEN'S DAY**







women got food packages

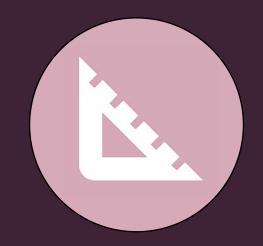


## **STRAY ANIMALS**

In the photo, the kennel volunteers with some of the stray dogs. On the left, some volunteers are ready to distribute the food for the street cats and kittens. This year we have continued to collaborate with the Tolfa kennel, making donations of monthly food packages worth 8,000 rupees per month for stray cats and dogs.

Responding to an emergency call at the kennels, we donated food for stray cats and dogs from May to September 2021. **Can you help us to continue helping these little ones this 2022?** 





# Housing and construction



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Thanks to the construction program, a toilet and a cement water tank were built for Saroj Tailor, a woman in need in the village of Ganaheda. The building took place on the land of Anita Nath. Currently, we are building a complementary room so she will have a place to live as well.

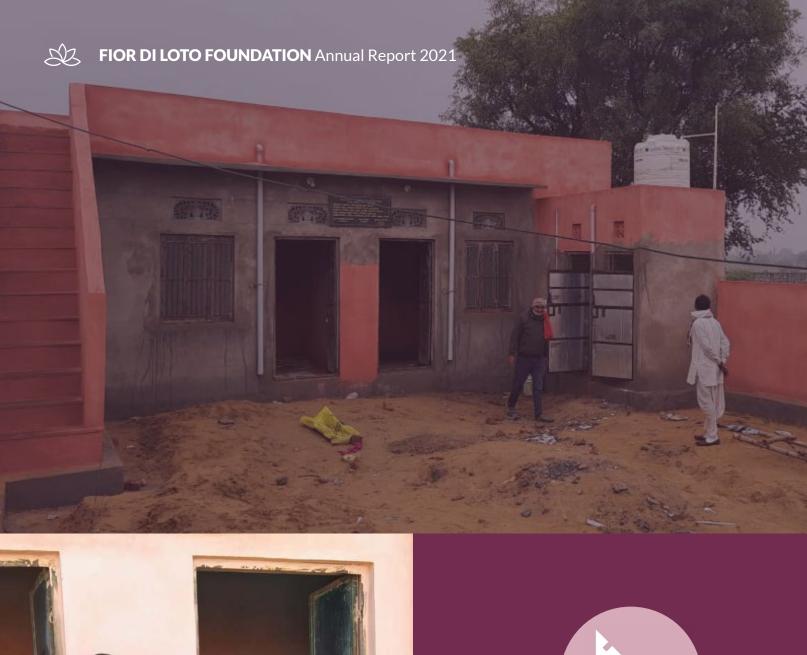
In the photo on the left you can see the tent made of scraps of cloth and plastic that Saroj Tailor used to live in.





Thanks to Catherine Peret for making this possible thanks to her donation!

## CONSTRUCTION



Before the end of 2021 we have also been able to finish building a house in the town of Ganaheda for Mr. Govind Mali and his family.

In the photos, you can see the construction process as well as a commemorative plaque of the foundation above the entrance. Finally, a photo of Deepu with Govind Mali and his wife on the day the house was handed over, already finished and completely painted pink, a very common colour in India.





21

houses build by our foundation





# **Collaborating projects**



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DE COOPERACIO IB L'ESCOLA FIOR DI LOTO

The Sant Esteve School in Barcelona has been working closely with our foundation for 14 years, organising annual craft sales, Christmas raffles and other activities to raise funds for the Fior di Loto school.

The truth is that the creativity and enthusiasm shown year after year by the Sant Esteve School community in Barcelona overwhelms us.

Together we promote education in the world, making it accessible to children who are especially vulnerable.



In the photos, you can see the craft stalls made by the students or the Christmas baskets with food products about to be raffled among the families of the school.



Thanks to the involvement of teachers, students and their families, more and more people are learning about the work of the foundation.







On the left, Ana, Xavi and Verónica, the three representatives of the Amics de Fior di Loto association (*Friends of Fior di Loto*) in Barcelona. They are the ones who organize the fair at the Sant Esteve school, with the help of the Family Association (AFA).

They also coordinate the La Taca Association event, a fundraiser for Fior di Loto. The children enjoyed listening to the stories of Gabi and Silvia so much. Thanks to Ana, Xavi, Veronica and all the volunteers!



It is thanks to initiatives like these that we can fund our social projects in India.



Lucy and Yak have been collaborating with us for many years. Owners of a British clothing company, they share the profits of each Black Friday, turning it into a solidarity Black Friday that changes the lives of many girls at Fior di Loto.

#### LUCY & YAK

PRESEN

29

27

36

320

न्टीन

This year Lucy and Yak managed to sponsor 218 girls.

Found





# The stories of our volunteers



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Namaste to all our Fior di Family and supporters. I am Luli, a family member and volunteer in our foundation since 2006.

Last year I enrolled myself into the renovation of our school which was an amazing experience which not only left a beautiful school for our girls but also did very beautiful changes and healing in my inner self.

This year the corona restrictions have not allowed the school to run full as it used to, as we have been facing limitations due to the persistence of the virus.

I faced here the covid and first lockdown in 2020 when we just could help from our hotel room crowdfunding money to help our families which were dealing with very hard situations as most of them live from daily incomes.

We did great all together and we were able to help with 3000 food packages to families in Pushkar and neighbors communiThanks to all sponsors, ambassadors and supporters of Fior Di Loto India, without all of you all this would not have been possible!

tions.

eyes.

- I came back in February 2021 and I must say the energies in Pushkar really shocked me.
- Pushkar was still an empty village and everyone was just surprised to see some of us were coming back as it was already a year without tourism or business.
- I have seen how most of the people I know -families, shopkeepers, business owners and villagers- have suffered and are still suffering the depression of how much it has affected us all of these covid restrictions and traveling limita-
- All of them have hope that tourism will open and work and businesses will come with it. But I must say after a year here in India the situation is not close to "normal" just yet.
- Our girls keep attending school in and out depending on government restrictions and limitations.
- I must say that even wearing masks and missing their beautiful smiles, I can see all their love and beauty in their shiny
- Yes, I am just grateful and I feel so blessed to have lived all times with the ones that I love and were needing help the most.
- I just want to thank with all my heart my dearest brother Deepuji Maharshi, Laxmi Maharshi and the rest of the Maharshi family and friends which has been helping and supporting daily through this pandemic situation to help our beautiful community!
- Thanks to Mara Ji and Guadalupe Ji for their constant work and love for this beautiful foundation and its projects.
- And last but not least, thanks to all sponsors, ambassadors and supporters of Fior Di Loto India, without all of you all this would not have been possible.

Sending all my love and blessing from Pushkar



My Name is Monika, I am from Switzerland. The first time i travelled to India in 1980 when I was 19 years old. I fell immediately in love with this beautiful country and its warm and hearty people...



I spent two and a half years in India between 1980 and 1984.

With my husband and our small children we travelled in 1989/90 each 4 months all over India, by bus and train. During this time I had a strong connection with Indian women... They taught me so much about the simple but important things of life. I felt so thankful for that time and the wish to give something back became stronger.

Since 1999 I have supported a woman with 4 girls in Hampi, her husband was a drinker and disappeared some years ago... She has such a hard life and she is very poor.. I could tell so many stories about what happened to her...

In 2007 I met Deepu Maharshi in Pushkar. I was very impressed by the school that Mara, Guadelupe and Deepu had started in 2003, and I immediately had the feeling to try to support them. First with little donations, later I became a sponsor of two girls and helped a little bit in the school when I was in Pushkar. Then I started to convey sponsorship for the girls of Fior di Loto, I talked to my friends, told the people of my village and my massage clients about the great project and many stories about the girls. I donate all my tips from my customers to Fior di Loto and the woman in Hampi... so my tippbox became a donation box. More and more people from the small village of Andermatt want to support us, even the school children collecting money to sponsor two girls.

Since 2007 I have spent every year 3 Months in India, 4-7 weeks in Pushkar, one month in Karnataka and at the end a bit of a holiday for myself...

In 2016 I founded FEGI (Free Education Girls India). Also in 2016 I bought the first two sewing machines for the Fior di Loto School, and wheelchairs for Vishnu, Naina and Omprakash and a lot more. Even if we experience a lot of sad things, it's always a pleasure to go shopping with Mara or to do some work together with her. We have fun and a big nice laugh whenever it's possible.

In 2018 I met Peita from Australia in Fior di Loto's school and we became good friends. She bought some more sewing machines and she gave sewing lessons... During 2018 and 2019 I assisted her in the sewing classes. She is a fantastic tailor and we had such a great time with the girls! Thanks to Deepu and Mara for this opportunity. It is a pity that we have not been able to return to India in the last two years because of the Covid-19 restrictions.

Currently, FEGI (Free Education Girls India) supports around 30 Girls from Fior di Loto School, together with Fior di Loto we raise and invest money in operations, housing and other resources for people in need. Deepu organised covid food packages for us and gave it to the families. Especially in this difficult time people need our help more than ever. Please send your donation to Fior di Loto, so that we can continue our work. Thank you. With love

Monika Boog Andermatt, Switzerland in January 2022



I am delighted to be a member of Fior di Loto and support lovely girls for their education as well as their food. I really wish them a bright future.

#### HIROKO

#### Hello everyone!

I want to share with you that this year I have not been physically able to be with the girls giving music classes and mutually enjoying every minute with them, which is so enriching, but we have continued to be connected online and via WhatsApp as far as possible. and hoping that very soon I will be given the opportunity to return to my second home and embrace the other part of my family in India. Because this is and always will be.

I confess that it is fortunate to be able to belong to this great family of Fior di Loto. In the meantime I invite you to join as well and I would be willing to share with all those who wish to come.

Do not doubt that this experience will be stored in your hearts with eternity value.

A big hug my friends, Namaste

### CARMEN





## MARIOLA

Since 2001 I've been flying to Pushkar, India, almost every year. Since that time I have supported the Foundation Fior di Loto, the magical girls. It is so great what Mara and Deepu are doing for the people of India. With how much love and care both give everything. The girls get an education, food and clothing, sick people get medicine and homeless families get a roof over their heads. Water tanks are built for some villages and animals receive their care.

Both Mara and Deepu are very dedicated. Even in the last 2 years, the families have been provided with essential food and medicines. This year, some women will receive sewing machines to improve their standard of living. It makes me happy to support this foundation and to visit it again and again. The bright eyes of the children open my heart and the friendship with Mara, Deepu and his family enriches my life. I would also like to say thank you to all the sponsors who have supported me over the years. I am very thankful I can help.

Mariola Strobl

The Yoga Fior di Loto group in Santo Domingo has been raising funds since September 2021 to buy 151 sewing machines by March 8, 2022 for women with limited resources.

So far, we have managed to purchase 67 sewing machines (each worth 50 euros); which will be delivered free of charge on March 8, 2022.

In the photo on the right, Mara Sandri, one of the founders of Fior di Loto India, along with the Santo Domingo Yoga group.

## **YOGA FIOR DI LOTO**

TEAM MY TEAM



Our goal is that through sewing, mothers and widows can support themselves and their children.



## CAROLE

Last year we reached 56 safe deliveries thanks to the Reiki Babies project, this year 97 babies have been born!

I'm Carole Williams UK Ambassador for Foundation Fior Di Loto since 2003. Since that time and along with a group I used to run (Knottingley Reiki Group). Prior to my retirement in 2021 we have raised funds to support the Foundation and the girls not only with their education but in any way that was needed.

As a group we have built 4 houses, started the Ann Elliot medical support, raised funds for the elderly and those in need of food, along with many other things including medical bills for a young boy severely burned and a life saving heart operation for a young lad that was a great success. I have visited the Foundation school and the girls every year since 2003 along with my family and many friends.

Due to the Corona Virus outbreak like everyone else this has not been possible. I miss Deepu and his extended family who I consider my family also. Our group broke up during the first lockdown due to medical reasons and of course some were elderly and at risk. I have since moved away with my husband as he retired. On my last visit to Pushkar I initiated the Reiki Babies support, this has been very successful and lots of mothers and babies have been given the medical help they needed I hope when the world is in a better place and I can once again work I am able to continue this and continue to support this wonderful Foundation. Thank you to everyone that has helped with Reiki Babies and the many other projects. Wishing you all Love Light Health and Happiness,

Carole

#### Namaste!

That's me again, Ricarda from Germany. I have been a volunteer and ambassador to Fior Di Loto since 2017.

Since 2020 I haven't been in Pushkar, becauwork at home, to care for sponsors of our

Love to everybody here



The Reiki Babies project provides medical assistance to pregnant women, offering them proper care in a hospital where they can give birth and be attended by health professionals.

**Donate to the Childbirth Support plan** 



# Join our family



Help us build change in the small community of Pushkar. Together we make Fior di Loto bigger!

**MAKE A DONATION** 

**BECOME A VOLUNTEER** 





For more information and updates about our work visit our website or follow us on social media.



#### FOUNDATION FIOR DI LOTO ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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