



Foundation for World Education

November 2021

NEWSLETTER

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RISING TO THE CHALLENGE FWE'S RESPONSE TO THE PANDEMIC

When the Covid-19 Pandemic struck, it very soon became apparent to the FWE that a few Integral Yoga organizations around the world were facing extreme, pandemic-related financial hardship. In a few cases, IY entities faced reductions so serious that the important services they offer to their communities were in immediate danger in the near term as well as far into the future. Some faced the probability of complete extinction. IY activities that depend on donors as well as those that depend on revenues from businesses and/or schools were both equally compromised by the worldwide financial contraction.



“In 2020-2021, the FWE was able to add almost \$80,000 on top of its usual granting capacity to meet the overwhelming need from various IY organizations.”

Fortunately, during the course of 2020 and 2021, FWE's endowment appreciated in value at an unusually fast pace. FWE therefore found itself to be well-positioned to offer generous emergency grants to support at-risk IY entities. In 2020, the board increased the frequency of its meetings and took active steps to reach out to the IY community in order to guide, assist, and encourage appropriate organizations to apply for grants outside of FWE's usual guidelines and time frames.

During the past decade, the amount of FWE's annual granting has averaged around \$64,000. However, in this past 2020 to 2021 period, FWE was able to add almost \$80,000 on top of its usual granting capacity to meet the overwhelming need from various IY organizations and entities. In addition, single FWE grants normally range in size from \$500 to \$3,000. A grant larger than \$5,000 is unusual. However, because of the urgent need, FWE chose to offer significantly larger grants to recipient organizations who were uniquely at risk due to the pandemic. The criteria FWE utilized to evaluate potential grant recipients that were threatened by the pandemic included an analysis of the challenges posed to each organization's long term health, future viability, and ongoing service to the IY community.

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Funding the evolution of consciousness around the globe...

AUROVILLE SCHOOLS



The FWE disbursed its largest grant to the Auroville Budget Coordinating Committee. According to the Auroville website, “The BCC has the task of managing an all-Auroville budget, coordinating the allocation of Auroville’s income towards the development and maintenance budgets of Auroville.” In other words, the BCC disburses funds allocated for the stipends received by Aurovilians as they engage in all manner of work. Unfortunately, donations directed through the BCC dropped a daunting 20% over all due to the Pandemic. In addition, a large annual donation that has always been directed specifically toward Auroville education, was withheld by the donor. To help cushion this drastic shortfall, FWE provided almost \$37,000 to pay a month of stipends for the teachers in all seventeen Auroville schools and Outreach Schools.

DELHI ASHRAM

The Sri Aurobindo Ashram Delhi Branch experienced an unexpected precipitous drop in donations caused by the pandemic, and for a time the Ashram’s financial health was under severe pressure. Regular sources of income stopped when the camps in their two Himalayan centers were canceled and the Tapasya guest house in Delhi closed. FWE donated \$20,000 to completely cover a month of the Ashram’s expenses and helped ease the Ashram’s passage through a severely testing and unpredictable challenge.



AUROVILLE VILLAGE ACTION GROUP

AVAG is a well-known and highly successful organization that serves the needs of villages in and around Auroville. FWE donated \$5,000 to a large scale program AVAG initiated in 2020 designed “to reduce the spread and the impacts of the pandemic.” The initiative provides useful and essential pandemic services to the 20,000 families in 75 communities that AVAG serves. Assistance AVAG provides is wide-ranging and includes food, basic necessities, financial help, counseling, and, importantly, reliable information and education on a number of health related topics. Below is AVAG’s eloquent description of the pandemic emergency:

Since April, India has been witnessing a surge in Covid-19 infections with the country seeing over 350,000 fresh cases of Covid-19 daily which is the highest one-day tally anywhere in the world. The number of deaths is increasing every day and Tamil Nadu continues to be one of the top five most affected states of India. This massive surge has caused a visible strain on the healthcare system, the livelihood of the people and increased deeply the gap between the rich and the poor. If steps are not taken to control the damages in the areas of health, socio-economic conditions, the pandemic will leave a long-standing effect on the lives of the most vulnerable people. ~ Auroville Village Action Group



Planting seeds of human unity...



Savitri Solar Dome Crestone, CO

SRI AUROBINDO LEARNING CENTER CRESTONE, COLORADO

In 2020 SALC was already in the midst of a transition, both in the vision of its mission and in devising logistical changes to promote improved self-sufficiency. The pandemic disrupted SALC's transition by forcing the cancellation of all workshops and other planned events that were its main source of income. FWE's grant of \$6,000 offered SALC critical support to carry on renewing itself under its new name, Sri Aurobindo Retreat Center.

SRI AUROBINDO CTR. OF INTEGRAL EDUCATION ICHHAPUR, ORISSA

Like countless schools throughout the world, this small school in rural Orissa faced an existential threat due to the Pandemic. In early 2020, within a very short time period its already modest revenue stream almost completely ceased and it became clear that the inability to pay teachers' salaries was the most serious issue the school faced. Without additional financial support, the teachers would be forced to move to urban areas where they could get jobs in schools with greater financial resources. FWE provided an unrestricted grant of \$5,300 to the school. Almost all of the monies were allocated to teachers' salaries, and the school survived, adapting to new modalities under the constraints of the pandemic and continuing to provide an invaluable service to their rural community.



Ichhapur School in pre-Covid Days



Santé Patient Facilities

SANTÉ: AUROVILLE INSTITUTE FOR INTEGRAL HEALTH

During about four months, from early March until July of 2021, Auroville experienced eighty-two Covid-19 cases, which included three deaths. As of late June, there were two to five new cases recorded every day. FWE's donation of \$10,000 to Santé to implement improvements to its facilities has enabled it to offer oxygen treatment and allow overnight stays and quarantines for patients who are very ill. This upgrade of the Santé facilities also offers

patients a better chance to avoid transport to overwhelmed hospitals outside of Auroville.

The FWE honors with gratitude the heroic actions, both large and small, engaged in by our grantees and by all thoughtful people who have creatively continued to serve and support our communities during this cataclysmic, historical event. *B*

For more information on how to contribute to Auroville in this time of urgent need, visit: aviusa.org.

Long-term giving to transform the earth.

GUIDELINES FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Foundation for World Education invites grant applications from individuals, programs and groups who share the vision of a transformed world espoused by Sri Aurobindo and the Mother. **All proposals must be presented to the FWE through the auspices of a nonprofit organization** and are subject to review by members of the board before a decision is taken. Proposals must be received **four weeks in advance** of a scheduled meeting.* Please email your proposal to: info@FoundationForWorldEducation.org. If your organization is submitting a proposal for the first time, please include a copy of its nonprofit tax exemption status, or the name of the nonprofit organization that will facilitate should your grant proposal be approved. If your organization is not registered in the U.S., please additionally attach certification of its ability to receive funds from the U.S.

PROPOSAL FORMAT

- **Summary/overview:** Name of your project/program and a brief explanation of what you plan to do.
- **Need/rationale:** Justify the significance of your project/program in relation to your organization's mission and the work of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother.
- **Program implementation and schedule:** Explain how you will implement this project. Include a time line and statement of the future viability of this project. Will it be self-sustaining after initial seed money is received from the FWE, or will there be future requests to support the program?
- **Personnel:** Names and qualifications of groups and individuals directly responsible for project.
- **Project's contribution:** What is the duration and extent of influence your project will have for Sri Aurobindo and the Mother's vision of the Integral Yoga? Is your project related to other organizations or individuals currently engaged in the work of the Integral Yoga? If so, how?
- **Current and future funding:** List sources of income and/or other funding sources for your project.
- **Budget:** Detail income and expenditure.
- **Final and progress reports:** Indicate method proposed to evaluate effectiveness of the project/program while in progress; written final report to be submitted within one year of completion of the grant or grant renewal. Indicate name of person who will prepare the final report.

* DUE DATE FOR NEW GRANT APPLICATIONS:

- JANUARY 7, 2022 (for main granting session)
- Grant applications received at other times of the year will be considered at the next available board meeting, dates of which fluctuate.

FUNDS MANAGED BY THE FOUNDATION FOR WORLD EDUCATION:

MAIN ENDOWMENT FUND

- The Eleanor Montgomery Endowment Fund

DONOR DESIGNATED FUNDS:

- Mickey's Fund (bequest of Eugene "Mickey" Finn)
- Ron's Fund (bequest of Ron Anastasia)
- Anuradha Sapru-Kohls Fund (bequest of Krishna Sapru)
- Morning Star Fund
- Karma Yoga Fund
- Sri Aurobindo Sadhana Peetham New Creation Endowment Fund

How you can participate ...

The Foundation for World Education allocates annual grants through disbursement from its main endowment. Since grant requests keep growing, we are able to fund only a portion of the worthy projects we consider each year. We therefore seek to grow in our ability to give grants by increasing the main endowment. The FWE encourages donations, bequests, long term giving, and tax advantaged estate planning. We also welcome the establishment of designated funds for areas of special interest--see our website for further details. As we are a 501(c)3 non-profit foundation, contributions within the U.S. may be partially or fully deductible for income or estate taxes. Please consult with your own tax advisor to determine the specific tax benefits that may be available to you. Your gift to the FWE is a gift to future generations and to conscious evolution in diverse fields of human endeavor.

GRANT ALLOCATIONS 2020

Total Grants and Disbursements..... \$154,729.40

Main Endowment Fund Grants.....\$74,169.00

Auroville (via the Projects Coordination Group)\$43,038.00

- Village Harmony.....7,121.00 *
- Auroville Village Action Covid Relief.....5,000.00
- Aikiyam Kindergarten.....4,285.00
- Eluciole Circus School Roof Repair.....4,248.00
- Management, Training & Development.....3,451.00
- Millets for All (Rural Nutritional Training).....3,000.00
- Lila Loka Learning Center.....3,000.00
- Sourcing Our Oneness Conference.....2,500.00
- Sustainable Organic Waste Management.....2,023.00 **
- Endangered Crafts Mela 2021.....2,000.00
- Auroville Unity Fund.....1,857.00
- Toward a Conscious Collective Facilitation.....1,586.00
- People and Cultural Diversity Forest Mgmt.....1,467.00
- Visitor Center Art Gallery.....1,000.00
- Eluciole Circus School Equipment.....500.00

Delhi Ashram Integral Ed. & Math Training Workshop..\$7,142.00

Matagiri Master Plan.....\$5,475.00

Fundacion Auromira Book Publication.....4,714.00

Project Arogya Music Therapy.....4,050.00

Sri Aurobindo in China Cultural Exchange.....3,900.00

Sri Aurobindo Educational Academy Science Library.....2,865.00

Sri Aurobindo Educational Academy Covid Relief Grant...2,985.00

Karma Yoga Fund\$49,300.00

- Sri Aurobindo Ashram Delhi Covid Relief.....20,000.00
- Sadhana Forest (Auroville).....14,400.00
- Matagiri7,200.00
- Sri Aurobindo Ctr. of Ed. Ichhapur Covid Relief..5,300.00
- AVI-USA2,400.00

Anuradha Sapru-Kohls Fund (Auro Mira Service Society)....\$25,300.00

Morning Star Fund (Midwife Training).....\$4,840.00

Mickey's Fund\$1,120.40

- Matrimandir560.20
- Matagiri369.73
- Sri Aurobindo Center of Boston190.47

* (this grant is dedicated to the memory of June Maher)

** (this grant is sponsored by Ron's Fund)

FWE thanks the non-profit organizations, Matagiri and Sri Aurobindo Sadhana Peetham, for their role in sponsoring three of the grant recipients during 2020.



FWE BOARD MEMBERS: Dakshina Vanzetti, Heidi Watts, Bhuvana Nandakumar, Aviram Rozin, Mateo Needham, Jean Eisele, Jerry Schwartz and John Schlorholtz



ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER: Paula Murphy

FOUNDER: Eleanor Montgomery

Foundation for World Education

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