

Reiki Foundation International (RFI) is a non-profit foundation registered in the state of Oregon, U.S.A. RFI was formed by Phyllis Lei Furumoto, the Lineage Bearer of the Usui Shiki Ryoho (USR) system of Reiki, which traces its roots through her grandmother Hawayo Takata, Chujiro Hayashi, and Mikao Usui.

The mission of RFI is to foster the development of USR Reiki in the global community and to serve students, masters, and the Lineage Bearer, through education, communication and providing a central structure that represents our system of Reiki to the world.

RFI began in the late 1990's as a group of experienced elder masters to consult with the Lineage Bearer and Head of the Discipline and to "hold" our understanding of Reiki as we know it in our practice. For the first 8 or 9 years, we were not an active group, but rather were focused on being a council primarily available to Phyllis Furumoto and Paul Mitchell for consultation, feedback, and consideration. Our group grew very close and valued the task of "being", rather than "doing". We did release a cd by Plinio Cutait, Barbara McDaniel, and Rick Bockner, which contained original music for the Reiki community (Egregora, available from RFI Music Project).

In 2008 RFI moved from a contemplative and consultative role, to an active process of realizing Reiki Home. We enlarged the Board to include directors with a wide range of skills and began to explore the need for USR to have an identifiable place in the world Reiki community. This was thought to mean a physical location at the time and we began to work towards purchasing Kenyon Ranch in Tubac, Arizona.

Due to the owners' desire to sell quickly, and our wish to obtain the Ranch, we moved towards that aim. At some point in 2011 it became obvious to us that we needed a wider base of support from our community for such a purchase. We relieved ourselves of the pressure of trying to complete the purchase on someone else's schedule, and have been working on developing platforms to garner support for our long term goal of creating a location for continuing education, archives, workshops on various aspects of Reiki philosophy, and a place where students and Masters can give back to Usui Shiki Ryoho from a place of gratitude and involvement.

At some point in the last 2 years, we began to recognize that Reiki Home is a state of mind, and, in many ways, it already exists. There are millions of Reiki students working in our system worldwide. We are connected through that practice, even if we do not know it consciously. Even more people have benefited from receiving Reiki. By recognizing that we already exist as a group, we are now exploring ways to activate that consciousness of Reiki Home- even if it takes some time to find a physical location to hold us.

This new realization has huge potential for RFI to assist and foster positive change on a global level by creating avenues of communication, on-line educational seminars, connecting people with needed skills who wish to support community initiatives, and discussing the challenges and potentials that are before us with a global forum. This becomes a process of expressing our highest values through creative community action,

We now feel that obtaining our physical location, when it happens, will be a natural expression of our desire to be seen as an active, contributing, and innovative member of the global discussions now going on around the topics of sustainable development, peace, permaculture, and social responsibility. How we manifest this will depend on input from our supporters, and will be the result of conversations in our community on a wide range of topics.

For the last year, RFI has been creating task teams of volunteers that each explore and develop a facet of what we wish to do. We now have an Executive Director who is coordinating our efforts and is supported by the teams in researching and designing our path forward. People who can see what our vision is are invited to participate on many levels- from becoming a "Friend of RFI" through a small annual donation, to joining one of our teams working on aspects of what Reiki Home is or can be.

In the end, we wish to use our international body of people who practice Usui Shiki Ryoho Reiki to manifest a place that can reflect our deepest wishes for sanctuary, reflection, creative expression, positive change, and personal development. RFI sees Reiki Home as the way for us to respond to the restrictive forces around us with enthusiasm, grace, and inclusivity. Reiki Home is a place from which we can afford to be generous. It is also the way that Usui Shiki Ryoho can reach out to other Reiki practices and be recognized in the world at large.