

THE SITUATION 2009

Over 90% of Ibiza's horses live in dark, narrow stalls without a paddock. Many of them only see the sun when they're taken out to work.

Malnutrition, gross abuse and neglect are regarded as normal. The law doesn't protect horses, annunciations are hardly worth it and whoever dares report abuse has to worry about their peace and health. Natural and horse-friendly training methods aren't known and dismissed as madness. A horse is seen as a thing, a tool for sports and work. This mentality is passed unchanged to the next generation.

**Transformation happens when we change the way we see the world and are moved to take action.. When we stop just looking on something that feels wrong and are stirred to look toward what is better.
Even if the outcome is unknown**

2005 -2009

The Horse Protection Association DUO follows up annunciations and takes on malnourished and abused horses. They are housed in the stables of volunteers. The association covers the costs – as far as means allow – for veterinary, blacksmith and fodder. Due to the high costs and low donations, vet and charity founder, Dr.Martina Czolgoszewski, carries most of the financial burden. More than 50 horses can be found new homes after her regeneration. However, despite all the efforts, the consciousness of people hardly changes.

2010

Karen Sailer tackles the problem at its roots and launches the project Alegria. Every Saturday she teaches 40 children in 2 stables horse appropriate handling and natural riding and training methods. After 7 Saturdays the children demonstrate their success in front of an audience and give the adults a new perspective on the nature of horses.

Important Points 2010:

- ≡ The first Seven Saturdays Show in February is seen by 50 people
- ≡ The second show in April already has an audience of 100
- ≡ All the events are free
- ≡ The media hear about it and publish articles about the shows and the project. The situation of horses in Ibiza becomes public and attracts attention.
- ≡ Karen Sailer finances the project and shows 100% through her own financial means.
 - 10 out of 40 children are given free tuition. 2 abused horses are taken in by the project, looked after by children, re-trained and presented in the shows as good examples. The costs for the horses alone is 7.500 Euros.

2011

The idea grows. Karen Sailer produces numerous short films about the project which attract international attention and recognition. Nationally successful riders and trainers contact the Island Council asking it to support the project. Artists and musicians from Ibiza get involved with the shows. The success story of a rescued horse is published in the media and triggers a wave of reports of abuse and offers of help. Private sponsors start supporting the project.