



The
CENTER for
VICTIMS of
TORTURE

CVT Fact Sheet

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MISSION

- To heal the wounds of torture on individuals, their families and their communities and to stop torture worldwide.

PROFILE

- Founded in 1985 and based in St. Paul, Minn., the Center for Victims of Torture™ (CVT) is an international nonprofit organization dedicated to healing the emotional, psychological and physical wounds of torture and to advocating for human rights and an end to torture.
- CVT was the first comprehensive torture survivor rehabilitation center in the U.S., and the third in the world.
- CVT has helped over 33,000 torture survivors rebuild their lives and restore their hope.
- Just over \$20 million operating budget (2017).

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP *(photos available upon request)*

- Curt Goering, executive director
- Ruth Barrett Rendler, deputy director
- Peter Dross, director of external relations

SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

- Interdisciplinary rehabilitative care for refugee torture survivors and their families at CVT's U.S. locations in Atlanta and Minnesota; for survivors in the Dadaab refugee camps in northern Kenya and urban refugees in Nairobi; Syrian and Iraqi refugees living in Jordan; Eritrean refugees in northern Ethiopia; and survivors of torture and conflict in Northern Uganda.
- Training of local mental health paraprofessionals so they can contribute to long-term mental health needs in their country and act as advocates for human rights.
- Technical assistance and training to torture survivor rehabilitation centers in the U.S. and around the world to strengthen each center's mental health services, organizational management and financial stability.
- Research and evaluation of rehabilitative care for survivors to determine the effects of torture and the most successful treatments.
- Public policy and public education initiatives to prevent torture.
- Advocacy to increase government support for torture rehabilitation programs in the U.S. and abroad.
- Direct New Tactics in Human Rights, promoting tactical innovation, strategic thinking and other resources to the international human rights community.
- Manage HealTorture.org that gathers key information for U.S.-based torture survivor rehabilitation programs to better understand the needs of survivors and the problem of torture in the world today. (Funded by the Office of Refugee Resettlement.)