



The CENTER for
VICTIMS of TORTURE

IT STARTS
WITH HOPE

30 YEARS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Torture Survivor Rehabilitation Center Honors its Founders

St. Paul, MN & Washington, DC– As the [Center for Victims of Torture™](#) (CVT) commemorates its 30th anniversary, the organization presents its annual Eclipse Award to its founders. This group of individuals was instrumental in launching the organization in 1985 and making key contributions to its early growth and development.

Recipients include Barbara Frey, Samuel Heins, Rudy Perpich, Jr. and the late Minnesota Governor Rudy Perpich, Terry Saario, Robert Sands, Robert Stein, Tom Triplett and David Weissbrodt in recognition of their role in founding and supporting the organization 30 years ago.

“CVT is proud to recognize these visionary leaders who recognized a gap in the human rights movement: the need for torture survivors to have access to specialized rehabilitative care. Their leadership provided the momentum that established an organization that was the first of its kind in the United States,” said Curt Goering, executive director of CVT. “Repeatedly, these individuals demonstrated a commitment to rebuilding the lives of torture survivors, as well as leadership at the global level in putting an end to torture.”

CVT presents the Eclipse Award each year near June 26 - [International Day in Support of Victims of Torture](#)- to an individual or organization that has played a crucial role in the prevention of torture or rehabilitation of torture survivors. June 26 is the day in 1987 when the [United Nations Convention Against Torture and Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment](#) went into effect. Events are held around the world to celebrate this special day.

The honorees will receive the Eclipse award on June 24 in Washington, D.C. as part of an event recognizing the growth and expansion made by CVT over its [30 years](#) of extending rehabilitative care to torture survivors and advocating to end torture. Recipient biographies are available [here](#).

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The Center for Victims of Torture is a nonprofit organization headquartered in St. Paul, MN with an office in Washington, D.C. and healing initiatives in Africa and the Middle East. Visit www.cvt.org.

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