

Our Story

The Center for Victims of Torture works toward a future in which torture ceases to exist and survivors have hope.

Founded in 1985 in Minnesota, **CVT is the largest organization of its kind in the world** and a leader in global mental health. CVT extends healing care to more than 25,000 survivors and family members each year through rehabilitation centers in cities and refugee camps worldwide.

CVT Georgia was created in 2016 to provide life-saving care to torture and war survivors living among the state's large refugee and immigrant community.

Georgia has a proud history of welcoming refugees dating back 40 years, and has provided safe haven to thousands fleeing war, torture and persecution.

Georgia survivors make vital economic, cultural and social contributions to the state. They are also remarkably resilient. They have overcome torture for opposing corruption, practicing their faith, fighting for democracy or simply seeking peace during violent times.

CVT Georgia helps survivors to heal from past trauma and build new and successful lives for themselves and their families in the state.

LEARN MORE & DONATE

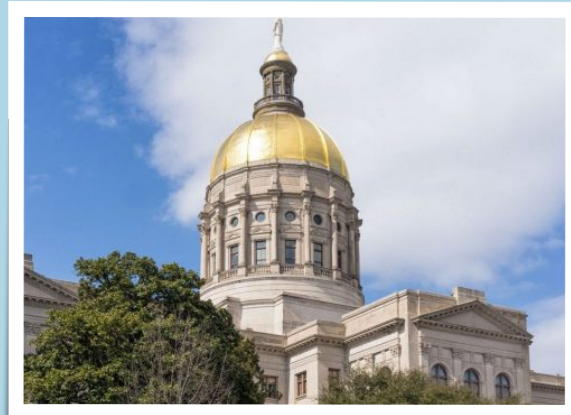
www.CVT.org

SHARE THE CAUSE

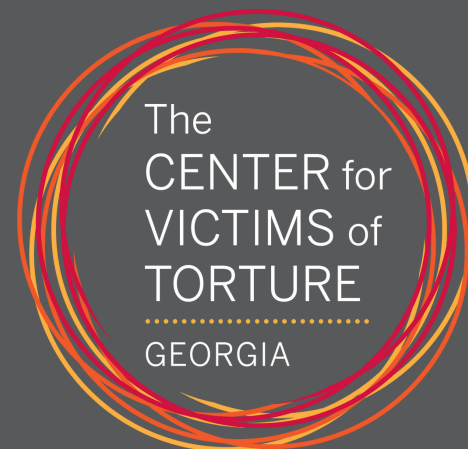
@CVTGeorgia   

STAY UPDATED

www.CVT.org/signup



CVT Georgia is proud to extend healing care to Georgia residents and their families, thanks to the generous financial support of federal, state and local partners and individual donors across the state.



CVT Georgia

*Rebuilding Lives and
Restoring Hope in Georgia*



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

What is Torture?

- Torture is the deliberate and systemic dismantling of a person's identity and humanity through physical or psychological pain and suffering.
- Torture can include physical and sexual assault, mock executions, prolonged detention, sensory deprivation, confinement, and threats against loved ones.
- Torture survivors endure effects such as chronic pain, headaches, reduced mobility, insomnia, and serious mental illnesses such as major depression and PTSD.
- Torture is a crime under U.S. and international law, and every human being has a basic right to live free from torture and to receive care if subjected to it.

Up to 44% of refugees in the U.S. have endured torture, suggesting that many thousands of refugee torture survivors live in Georgia today.

What We Do

HEALING

CVT Georgia uses a holistic model of care that incorporates psychotherapy, case management and professional interpretation. We look at the whole person, focusing on what each client needs to heal in mind, body and spirit. No individual is denied services due to inability to pay.

RESEARCH

We conduct rigorous evaluation and monitoring to ensure the work we do is effective. CVT Georgia documents significant improvements in clients' mental health symptoms and social functioning abilities.

ADVOCACY

AT CVT Georgia, we give voice to torture survivors purposefully silenced by perpetrators and advocate for policies that enable them to regain productive lives of dignity in the state. We also work with coalition partners, including the Coalition of Refugee Service Agencies (CRSA), the Business and Immigration in Georgia (BIG) Partnership, the Georgia Mental Health Policy Partnership and others.

"CVT is a part of my motivation for wanting to live. They gave me my self-confidence back."

- AMINA*, CVT CLIENT AND TORTURE SURVIVOR

*Name has been changed for safety

TRAINING

CVT Georgia recognizes that it can only provide care for a fraction of the torture survivors in the state. Drawing on many decades of experience, we provide training to Georgia organizations on the most effective approaches to caring for survivors of extreme trauma.

