

Hope and Healing Today—
A World Without Torture
Tomorrow



Message from the Executive Director

The past year was filled with record achievements for the Center for Victims of Torture. We provided healing treatment to more than 2,700 torture survivors at our centers in the Twin Cities and West Africa. We were also able to take the first steps in setting up healing programs in the war-ravaged Democratic Republic of Congo.

However, during 2006, our own government continued to shame our nation and undermine democracy by using torture. We learned of secret CIA prisons where torture was the norm. Congress passed legislation that allows the President to decide what interrogation techniques constitute torture. And the administration refused to rule out the near-drowning method of torture called “waterboarding.”



Douglas A. Johnson

In response, CVT stepped up our advocacy efforts to end the U.S. use of torture. The U.S. needs to show the world that our country has *the courage to overcome violent tactics by treating all suspects fairly and humanely*—without descending into torture or cruel treatment. Our nation can

lead more people into democracy by regaining our historic leadership in human rights.

Your generosity as a friend of the Center for Victims of Torture made possible our successes in 2006. I want to thank you for your financial support and for being partners with us over the past year in bringing healing to thousands of survivors and in advocating against the use of torture everywhere. For all those who suffer torture, your investment is truly a message of hope.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas A. Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Hope and Healing in the Twin Cities

During 2006, most of the torture survivors who found hope and healing at our centers in Minneapolis and St. Paul were from Africa. They were deeply traumatized by beatings, sexual torture, electric shock, burns, and asphyxiation. Many were forced to watch the torture of others, even of their own family members.

Our internationally respected treatment program combines multi-disciplinary healing services including medical care, counseling, and physical and massage therapy with assistance in meeting clients' basic needs such as housing, employment, and education. During 2006, two new program components helped survivors overcome the paralyzing isolation that many experience: art classes and nature excursions (canoeing, kayaking, and hiking) now help survivors learn to trust and interact with others and restore their social ties. CVT's combination of expert treatment and social reconnection allows people suffering from the effects of trauma to recover and once again become productive citizens.

Most of the torture survivors we care for are seeking political asylum in the U.S. And often their unresolved immigration status can lead to delayed healing. In 2006, several cases of detention in local jails or pending deportation to countries of origin made it especially difficult for our client care team to extend effective care to survivors. One of these clients, for example, has been jailed for more than a year and faces a possible return to her home country where she will likely be tortured and killed. CVT is doing everything possible to keep our clients safe. But problems like this are taking an increasing amount of staff time that could better be used to heal more torture survivors.



Drawing courtesy of KKE Architects

The Center for Victims of Torture healing center in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Healing the Wounds of Torture in Africa

In September 2006, the Center for Victims of Torture began establishing healing centers in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Nearly four million people died in the decade-long war in this Central African nation, which borders Sudan, Rwanda, and Uganda. CVT will treat survivors in Katanga Province, an area slightly smaller than France, where the population suffered widespread beatings, disappearances, and torture. Thousands of young boys were forced to serve in militias, while thousands of girls as young as 10 were tortured as sex slaves.

In December, we began training local paraprofessional counselors in the Democratic Republic of Congo city of Lubumbashi. CVT counselors will provide treatment based on techniques we pioneered in Minneapolis/St. Paul, and further developed in Sierra Leone and Liberia, combined with traditional African healing methods. CVT will also educate communities on the effects of torture and train local and national agencies to care for torture survivors.

With expert treatment, children and adults traumatized by war and torture can heal and rebuild their lives. CVT has documented that at our successful community-based torture treatment programs in Liberia and Sierra Leone. In 2006, CVT's West Africa programs extended care to nearly 2,500 children and adults and trained hundreds of health care and human service workers on the effects of torture and effective methods of healing survivors. Our centers in West Africa are widely respected as the best source of counseling for torture survivors and training for organizations dealing with traumatized communities.



Mariama, CVT counselor in Liberia

Expanding the Capacity for Healing

CVT's treatment centers are able to care for only a few thousand of the millions of torture survivors worldwide. To increase the number of people who receive healing, the Center for Victims of Torture shares our expertise with treatment centers and other organizations both in the United States and around the world.

Worldwide. During 2006, CVT trained and assisted the staffs of torture treatment centers in 16 different countries. The goal is to help these centers become stronger institutions. Our training also provides these centers with the skills to become leading advocates in their nations for healing torture survivors and protecting human rights.

In Cambodia. During 2006, CVT facilitated the emergence of a network of mental health service providers in a country where entire generations of people remain highly traumatized by atrocities committed by the Khmer Rouge regime over two decades ago. CVT is disseminating resources and knowledge throughout the entire Cambodian health care system—from hospitals to village elders. This past year, we trained staff at a dozen Cambodian healthcare agencies.

In the United States. At least 500,000 torture survivors now live in this country. In the past year, CVT organized technical assistance and training for 35 treatment programs across the nation. We added an Internet-based resource center with a wealth of information that professionals treating torture survivors can download at no cost.



Friends of the Center for Victims of Torture plant a tree, as a symbol of hope and healing, at the celebration of the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture.

PHOTO © AMY-JO VERSOLATO

In the Twin Cities. In the Brooklyn Park and Brooklyn Center suburbs of Minneapolis, 8,500 immigrants, mostly from Liberia, have suffered torture or severe war-related trauma. To assist these traumatized individuals and their receiving community, CVT is bringing together schools, churches, African-led organizations, clinics, social service agencies, and mental health specialists into a community-wide healing network.

During 2006, CVT began therapy groups based in junior and senior high schools. We trained local Liberian community leaders to recognize and respond to symptoms of torture. We helped local police better understand West African culture and the effects of torture. A CVT patient study revealed that most torture survivors don't mention their trauma to their doctors, so CVT worked with the affected community and local clinics on how to identify torture symptoms and how to appropriately discuss the matter in primary care settings.

“I am a torture survivor. The CVT has been a welcoming place for me. Here, I have been able to heal and regain my life. Thank you. Please know, your support, your work, your voices—they have made a difference in my life and the lives of many other survivors.”

— Adolph, CVT client
Speaking at the Minnesota State Capitol,
June 26, 2006, United Nations International
Day in Support of Victims of Torture

Advocacy and Torture Prevention

In 2006, the Center for Victims of Torture played the leadership role in winning Congressional appropriation of \$24 million for torture survivor rehabilitation programs in the U.S. and abroad.

Last year, CVT also worked hard to end the use of torture by U.S. personnel. We doubled the staff in our Washington, D.C., advocacy office and dramatically increased our online Action Alert Network of concerned citizens (please join at www.cvt.org).

In September, CVT helped key members of Congress prepare statements that they presented on the House and Senate floors. These members argued that current U.S. law prohibits sleep deprivation, prolonged exposure to cold, the near-drowning technique of “waterboarding,” and other forms of torture and cruel treatment. In addition, before the 2006 elections in Minnesota, we launched a voter and candidate education project on torture.

All of this advocacy work has real credibility with elected officials because of our long experience in healing survivors.

CVT puts a human face on torture. This has made our voice widely respected on Capitol Hill, as we advocate for public policies that heal torture survivors and prevent torture.



Representatives Jim Ramstad (R-MN) and Betty McCollum (D-MN) speak at the Washington, D.C., event commemorating the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture.

PHOTOS © HOLLY ZIEMER

**THE CENTER FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

For the Years Ended December 31, 2006 and 2005

2006

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	TOTAL
SUPPORT AND REVENUE				
PUBLIC SUPPORT				
Corporate	\$ 8,118	\$ 130,000	-	\$ 138,118
Foundation	359,935	979,000	-	1,338,935
Individual	1,325,624	157,176	-	1,482,800
Other Institutions	172,946	3,000	-	175,946
U.N. Voluntary Fund	150,000	610,000	-	760,000
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	1,338,915	(1,338,915)	-	-
Total Public Support	<u>3,355,538</u>	<u>540,261</u>	-	<u>3,895,799</u>
REVENUE				
Program Service Revenue	4,049,162	-	-	4,049,162
Third-party Billings	130,375	-	-	130,375
Speaking Fees	22,114	-	-	22,114
Investment Return	43,964	-	-	43,964
Miscellaneous Revenue	8,108	-	-	8,108
Total Revenue	<u>4,253,723</u>	-	-	<u>4,253,723</u>
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	7,609,261	540,261	-	8,149,522
EXPENSES				
PROGRAM SERVICES				
Client Services	1,478,349	-	-	1,478,349
Professional Training	1,563,191	-	-	1,563,191
Research	319,453	-	-	319,453
Public Policy/Education	501,913	-	-	501,913
International Services	2,617,461	-	-	2,617,461
Total Program Services	<u>6,480,367</u>	-	-	<u>6,480,367</u>
SUPPORTING SERVICES				
Fundraising	651,104	-	-	651,104
Management and General	473,535	-	-	473,535
Total Supporting Services	<u>1,124,639</u>	-	-	<u>1,124,639</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>7,605,006</u>	-	-	<u>7,605,006</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	4,255	540,261	-	544,516
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>2,048,354</u>	<u>1,022,007</u>	<u>20,318</u>	<u>3,090,679</u>
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	<u>\$2,052,609</u>	<u>\$1,562,268</u>	<u>\$20,318</u>	<u>\$3,635,195</u>

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

DECEMBER 31, 2006

2005		<u>12/31/06</u>	<u>12/31/05</u>
	ASSETS		
	CURRENT ASSETS		
	Cash and Cash Equivalents	879,746	854,814
	Investments	624,511	416,684
	Accounts Receivable	287,840	352,606
	Unconditional Promises to Give	728,000	176,648
	Prepaid Expenses	101,448	112,620
	Interest Receivable	2,716	1,855
	TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	<u>1,915,227</u>	<u>1,450,951</u>
	PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT		
	Land	96,300	96,300
	Building and Improvements	1,057,214	1,045,214
	Leasehold Improvements	452,520	452,520
	Furniture and Equipment	347,820	447,309
	Vehicles	142,850	85,842
	TOTAL Property and Equipment	<u>2,097,246</u>	<u>2,127,185</u>
	Less Accumulated Depreciation	818,005	807,526
	Net Property and Equipment	<u>1,279,241</u>	<u>1,319,659</u>
	OTHER ASSETS		
	Unconditional Promises to Give	-	40,000
	Restricted Investments	20,318	20,318
	TOTAL Other Assets	<u>20,318</u>	<u>60,318</u>
	TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>3,923,820</u></u>	<u><u>3,295,204</u></u>
	LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
	CURRENT LIABILITIES		
	Accounts Payable	147,314	65,081
	Accrued Compensation	95,275	56,944
	Deferred Grants	-	2,500
	Accrued Interest	46,036	-
	Current Portion of Long-Term Debt	-	80,000
	TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>288,625</u>	<u>204,525</u>
	LONG-TERM DEBT, Net of Current Maturities	-	-
	NET ASSETS		
	Unrestricted		
	Net investment, property & equipment	1,279,241	1,319,659
	Undesignated	773,368	728,695
	Temporarily Restricted	1,562,268	1,022,007
	Permanently Restricted	20,318	20,318
	TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>3,635,195</u>	<u>3,090,679</u>
	TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u><u>3,923,820</u></u>	<u><u>3,295,204</u></u>
Total Unrestricted and Restricted \$ 409,030 964,134 1,260,149 116,714 510,000 - <hr/> 3,250,027 3,914,482 193,775 28,208 33,170 6,169 <hr/> 4,175,804 7,425,831 1,405,390 1,801,438 206,828 389,894 <hr/> 1,939,224 5,742,774 570,357 440,604 <hr/> 1,010,961 6,753,735 672,096 2,418,583 <hr/> \$3,090,679 <hr/>			

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U.S. Department of State – Bureau for Population, Refugees and
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CVT psychosocial counselors in Liberia

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



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TORTURE

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