

The Center for Victims of Torture
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**Front cover:
A mental health
professional trained
by the Center for
Victims of Torture
in West Africa.**

PHOTO: CAROL WHITE

Restoring the Dignity of the Human Spirit

A Special Report to Friends of the Center for Victims of Torture




**THE CENTER
FOR VICTIMS OF
TORTURE**
717 EAST RIVER ROAD
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55455
(612) 436-4800 www.cvt.org


**THE CENTER
FOR VICTIMS OF
TORTURE**

Message from the Executive Director

During 2003, the Center for Victims of Torture held a unique place in the world because of both the depth and breadth of what we do.

The core of our work was the healing treatment we provided to nearly 2,000 torture survivors at our centers here in the Twin Cities and in West Africa. Our highly trained staff enables people suffering from paralyzing trauma to recover and become healthy, productive citizens again.



Douglas A. Johnson

However, there are over 500,000 torture survivors in the United States and millions throughout the world. The gap between our capacity for direct service and the need is staggering.

To meet this need requires working in different ways and on a different scale.

That's why we train health care professionals and educators in Minnesota, and the staffs of torture treatment centers across the nation and around the world. It's also why we invest resources in advocacy, to win government funds that pay for healing services for torture survivors.

During 2003, the economic downturn led foundations to cut back support for many non-profit organizations, including the Center for Victims of Torture. We had to make painful staff cuts and start a client waiting list.

Yet, in spite of having to cut our budget, as you will read in this Special Report, 2003 was a year of notable accomplishment for the Center for Victims of Torture. This is due in large part to Friends of the Center, who have continued, and even increased, their giving. I am grateful to all who so generously support this life-restoring work.

Restoring the Dignity of the Human Spirit—In the U.S.

“Nadina” was one of more than 249 torture survivors who received treatment during 2003 at our two centers here in Minneapolis and St. Paul.

In her home country, Nadina was a journalist who demonstrated against the government. She was imprisoned and brutally tortured. The police hung Nadina by her arms for hours. They kicked her and applied electric shock to many parts of Nadina's body, including her ears. When it was over, Nadina's leg, hip, and shoulder were seriously injured. She continues to suffer hearing loss, and still can't walk without extreme pain.

Nadina heard about the Center for Victims of Torture while she was still in her home country. When she was able to come to America, she chose Minnesota because she hoped we could help her.

At our St. Paul center last summer, Nadina began receiving treatment from a



The new healing center in St. Paul opened its doors in early 2004, enabling the Center for Victims of Torture to increase the number of torture survivors it helps regain productive lives.

Drawing courtesy of KKE Architects

team that includes a physician, a nurse, a psychotherapist, a social worker, and a physical therapist. We connected her to a local hospital, where her leg injury is finally getting treated. Nadina says that for the first time in more than five years, she has a positive outlook on life.

Restoring the Dignity of the Human Spirit—In Africa

In West Africa, the Center for Victims of Torture is healing people who have suffered some of the most gruesome and violent torture, including having limbs cut off or being forced to murder family members. This year at our centers in Guinea and Sierra Leone, we provided treatment to 1,720 people, 600 of them children. A hallmark of our work is our successfully combining Western mental health approaches with traditional African healing methods.

As 2003 opened, we were treating refugees from the civil war in Sierra Leone. In May, Sierra Leone held successful elections, and refugees began returning home. The paraprofessional torture treatment counselors we had trained went back too, and they are continuing their healing work in their own villages.

Just as the Sierra Leonean refugees were leaving, Liberia exploded in civil war. Tens of thousands of Liberians flooded into the refugee camps. The Center for Victims of Torture was prepared. We trained 40 new Liberian paraprofessional counselors who were treating children and adults at the close of 2003.



PHOTO: CAROL WHITE

Children at a refugee camp in West Africa.

Advocacy: Creating More Resources for Healing

Our one-person advocacy office in Washington, D.C.—and our focused citizen lobbying—succeeded again in 2003. We won reauthorization of the Torture Victims Relief Act, which provides federal government support for torture treatment centers here in the U.S. and around the world. This victory raises the authorization for federal funding from \$25 million per year up to \$44 million by 2005. Over the coming year, we will work to win the second necessary vote, to persuade Congress to appropriate these funds.

With nearly 200 centers struggling to provide torture treatment worldwide, the need for funding is urgent. During 2003, we launched a citizen advocacy effort to win more financial support from European governments. With support from a British foundation, we opened a one-person office near the European Union headquarters in Brussels.

Training: Sharing Our Knowledge

The Center for Victims of Torture is dedicated to sharing our expertise as widely as possible. At our two centers in West Africa, we've trained more than 100 paraprofessional counselors. A university in Sierra Leone recognizes the excellence of our training, and grants every successful trainee a degree in counseling.

Here in Minnesota, we trained 3,500 doctors, nurses, social workers, therapists, teachers, and school psychologists in 2003. Across the nation, we trained the staffs at 33 torture treatment centers—and around the world, the staffs at 15 more.

The goal of all our training is to increase the number of torture survivors who receive the kind of effective, healing care we provide here at the Center for Victims of Torture. We know that as more and more torture survivors regain their lives, they send a powerful message to those who use torture: the dignity of the human spirit cannot be crushed.

***The mission of the
Center for Victims of Torture
is to heal the wounds of torture
on individuals, their families, and
their communities and
to stop torture worldwide.***

THE CENTER FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION DECEMBER 31, 2003

	<u>12/31/03</u>	<u>12/31/02</u>
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	805,537	486,374
Investments	304,598	927,833
Accounts Receivable	252,280	387,138
Prepaid Expenses	76,500	45,373
Interest Receivable	1,591	7,539
Unconditional Promises to Give	<u>323,400</u>	<u>510,000</u>
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	1,763,906	2,364,257
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT		
Construction in Progress	1,041,354	314,208
Leasehold Improvements	407,089	404,474
Furniture and Equipment	<u>325,031</u>	<u>304,858</u>
	1,773,474	1,023,540
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>628,342</u>	<u>571,279</u>
Property and Equipment - Net	1,145,133	452,261
OTHER ASSETS		
Unconditional Promises to Give	77,700	171,568
Restricted Investments	<u>20,318</u>	<u>20,318</u>
TOTAL OTHER ASSETS	<u>98,018</u>	<u>191,886</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>3,007,056</u>	<u>3,008,404</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	44,280	49,510
Accrued Interest	7,450	10,167
Accrued Compensation	39,376	49,086
Deferred Grants		24,496
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt	<u>80,000</u>	<u>80,000</u>
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	171,106	213,259
Long-Term Debt, Net of Current Portion	<u>160,000</u>	<u>240,000</u>
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	1,880,534	1,154,777
Temporarily Restricted	775,098	1,380,050
Permanently Restricted	<u>20,318</u>	<u>20,318</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	2,675,950	2,555,145
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>3,007,056</u>	<u>3,008,404</u>

THE CENTER FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE • STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
For the Years Ended December 31, 2003 and 2002

	2003			2002	
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total	Total Unrestricted and Restricted
SUPPORT AND REVENUE					
Public Support					
Corporate, Foundation and Individual Contributions	\$1,471,310	\$1,197,796	\$-	\$2,669,106	\$2,621,485
International Organization	-	500,000	-	500,000	380,000
Speaking Fees	18,534	-	18,534	-	25,346
Fundraising Event	17,470	-	17,470	-	18,770
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	-	-	-	-	-
Restrictions Satisfied by Payments	2,302,748	(2,302,748)	-	-	-
Total Public Support	3,810,062	(604,952)	-	3,205,110	3,045,601
Revenue					
Program Service Revenue	3,749,571	-	-	3,749,571	3,693,439
Third Party Billings	157,936	-	-	157,936	109,439
Investment Return	9,909	-	-	9,909	83,504
Loss on Disposal of Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-	(1,350)
Total Revenue	3,917,416	-	-	3,917,416	3,885,032
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	7,727,478	(604,952)	-	7,122,526	6,930,633
EXPENSES					
Program Services					
Client Services	1,210,700	-	-	1,210,700	1,275,864
Professional Training	3,659,167	-	-	3,659,167	3,525,175
Research	104,294	-	-	104,294	151,894
Public Policy/Education	1,005,457	-	-	1,005,457	732,053
Total Program Services	5,979,618	-	-	5,979,618	5,684,986
Supporting Services					
Fundraising	737,501	-	-	737,501	600,631
Management and General	284,602	-	-	284,602	455,644
Total Supporting Services	1,022,103	-	-	1,022,103	1,056,275
TOTAL EXPENSES	7,001,721	-	-	7,001,721	6,741,261
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	725,757	(604,952)	-	120,805	189,372
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,154,777	1,380,050	20,318	2,555,145	2,365,773
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$1,880,534	\$775,098	\$20,318	\$2,675,950	\$2,555,145

The information on this and the previous page reflects financial statements audited by the firm of Clausen, Schoenbauer, Seurer, and Webb, Ltd. In 2003, the Center for Victims of Torture received \$7.1 million in revenue and its expenses were slightly over \$7 million. More than 85 percent of the revenues received were used for programmatic purposes, and fundraising costs were less than 11 percent. You may visit www.cvt.org to view our auditor's report or we will be happy to send you a printed copy upon request.

Healers *(gifts totaling \$10,000 or more in 2003)*

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 United States Department of State: Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration
 United States Agency for International Development
 United States Office of Refugee Resettlement
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Caregiver *(total giving in 2003 of \$5,000-9,999)*

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