

March News, Events, and Volunteer Opportunities

Survivors of Torture, International <notorture@mail.democracyinaction.org>

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Special Event

See photos and video footage from the Celebration of Hope & Healing

Donate today to support
Survivors of Torture
International!

SURVIVORS would like to thank everyone who supported our 11th anniversary event, the Celebration of Hope & Healing. On February 24, Carlos Mauricio spoke about his experiences as a torture survivor from El Salvador. Joining him were young poets from the Owl & Panther expressive arts group and Chilean flutist Leonardo Baeza Bravo.



- [Photos from the event and reception](#)
- [10News: Tortured Man Uses Experiences To Help Others](#)
- [El Latino: Tortura, violación de derechos](#)

SURVIVORS' board and staff members thank all of our sponsors, speakers, and attendees for supporting our healing community for survivors of torture and their families. **You make this work possible.**

Financial sponsors: Thrivent Financial for Lutherans & The California Endowment

MCLE sponsor: California Western School of Law

Recent News

The New Yorker: [The lost children: What do tougher detention policies mean for illegal immigrant families?](#)

CNN: ['Signs of torture' you can't imagine](#)

Associated Press: [House fails to override torture veto](#)

Read more news about torture on our [del.icio.us](#) social bookmarking page.

Advocacy

Urge your representative to support programs for survivors of torture!

The Torture Victims Relief Act (TVRA) pays for torture rehabilitation services that are urgently needed in California, the United States and abroad. It is especially

imperative this year that the TVRA programs get full appropriations because of the expected influx of Iraqi refugees and asylum seekers. In this year alone, the U.S. will be resettling 12,000 Iraqi refugees and an unidentified number of Iraqi asylum seekers.

The U.S. House of Representatives will discuss funding for TVRA when it considers appropriations bills for fiscal year 2009. [Sign a letter to urge your representative to support full funding for healing services for survivors.](#)

Giving Opportunities

Donate online

Survivors of Torture, International is able to help rebuild lives thanks to the support of generous individual donors. Financial contributions are the easiest and most flexible way to help. [Donate securely online.](#)

Link your grocery store card to have a percentage go to SURVIVORS

We are now part of the Ralphs/Food 4 Less community program. Enroll in the program and 1-4% of all your purchases will go directly to SURVIVORS. Here's how to enroll:

1. Visit the [Ralphs](#) web site or the [Food 4 Less](#) web site
2. Select the "Participant" option
3. Enter SURVIVORS' organization number: 84761

Recycle and support SURVIVORS

SURVIVORS has already recycled more than 200 cell phones and ink cartridges to raise money for our programs. Please contact [Charlene](#) at 619-278-2410 if you think your business, school or organization would like to partner with SURVIVORS on this project.

Search online using Goodsearch



[GoodSearch.com](#) is a new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine and watch the donations add up for SURVIVORS.

Just go to [www.goodsearch.com](#) and be sure to enter Survivors of Torture, International as the organization you want to support.

Upcoming Events

"Justice Without Borders" film screening and discussion in North County



When: Saturday, April 19 from 6:00 p.m. - 9.30 p.m.
Where: [Palomar Unitarian Universalist Fellowship](#)
Cost: Free-will donation

The 35-minute film ["Justice Without Borders"](#) profiles human rights defenders at the front lines of the international justice movement, such as Luis Moreno-Ocampo, the first Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court. Some of the defenders featured in the film are survivors of torture and other human rights abuses. Through their struggles for justice, they empower us with

their humanity and their hope for the future. The event will be hosted by the Amnesty International Group 471.

Speakers include: Kathi Anderson, executive director of Survivors of Torture,

International; Rachel Jensen, attorney actively engaged in human rights and torture issues; Dick Eiden, human rights activist and immigration lawyer; Rev. Dr. Beth Johnson, Minister at PUUF; Hugh Afshari, philosophy professor at Cal State San Marcos.

Volunteer Opportunities

Plan a dinner, house party, film screening, or speaking engagement to raise funds and awareness for Survivors of Torture, International. Organizing a small event is a great way to identify friends, family, and coworkers who might want to make financial contributions to support our mission, and an easy way to educate individuals who may be unfamiliar with torture and related issues.

We can support you through the planning process and supply any materials you might need, such as brochures, newsletters, powerpoint presentations, fact sheets, and donation envelopes. Contact [Maren](#) at 619-278-2422 to learn more.

Survivors of Torture, International:

- *Facilitates the healing of torture survivors and their families;*
- *Educates professionals and the public about torture and its consequences;*
- *Advocates for the abolition of torture.*



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