



# THE SURVIVOR

## Federal Issues, Local Impact on SURVIVORS

How do changes at the federal level affect SURVIVORS and the clients we serve? Here are a few of the ways:

- *Affordable Care Act:* We applaud the inclusion of refugees and asylees (granted) in the Affordable Care Act. However, asylum seekers are not covered, and medical care continues to be a challenge. SURVIVORS seeks monetary and in-kind support to provide the critical medical services for our clients.
- *Shutdown of the federal government:* During the shutdown, non-detained asylum seekers' scheduled hearings were pushed back more than six months, thus requiring more ongoing support and services from SURVIVORS.
- *Sequestration:* More asylum seekers are being released into the community from the local federally-contracted immigration detention facility, Corrections Corporation of America (CCA). This has created an immediate and growing need for SURVIVORS to provide additional assistance, since many lack

suitable housing options and no other program in San Diego provides comprehensive and intensive care to asylum-seeking torture survivors.

- *Funding Cuts:* Sequestration resulted in a 3% cut to SURVIVORS' grant from the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Refugee Resettlement. In addition, the U.S. government is appropriating fewer funds to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, which has resulted in a funding reduction to SURVIVORS. With demand for services for torture survivors increasing to record levels, it is difficult for SURVIVORS to continue serving the same numbers of clients with fewer resources.

If you would like to assist SURVIVORS as we adjust to these changes, please consider making a donation to SURVIVORS and contacting your elected officials to let them know that it is vital for them to continue supporting torture treatment centers.

## SURVIVORS Welcomes UCSD Psychiatry Partnership



Dr. Dorothy Liu (left) and her UCSD colleagues

SURVIVORS is pleased to welcome a new partnership with UCSD's Combined Family Medicine-Psychiatry Department. Chief Resident Dr. Dorothy Liu is now caring for SURVIVORS' clients for their medication needs and on-going monitoring.

Dr. Liu chose the UCSD Combined Program because of its mission to serve the sick, regardless of socioeconomic status, mental illness, or language barrier. During

her residency, she has nurtured an interest in psychotherapy and completed a fellowship at the San Diego Psychoanalytic Institute. She is also participating in the Integrative Medicine curriculum to explore complementary and alternative therapies. Her work with SURVIVORS matches well with her strong interest in international health and in providing medical and psychiatric care to populations that are traditionally overlooked, such as refugees.

"We are thrilled to have Dr. Liu treating our clients," said Kathi Anderson, SURVIVORS' executive director. "We are also grateful to UCSD for the partnership so torture survivors can receive quality care on a pro bono basis."

## Mission Statement

### 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.

## SURVIVORS Co-sponsors Psychiatric Conference

SURVIVORS is co-sponsoring the annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Psychiatry and Culture to be held at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice at the University of San Diego, May 15-17, 2014. The theme is Trauma, Recovery and Culture.

Torture will be a central focus of this year's conference, with the agenda including a plenary panel and two symposia on research and policy. The opening panel will feature survivors of torture from three different cultures: Dr. Edie Eger, a Holocaust survivor who danced for Dr. Mengala in order to save her life; Nang Du, Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at UCSF who was imprisoned by the Pol Pot regime; and John Kuek, a marriage and family therapist who is a survivor from South Sudan. Kathi Anderson, executive director of SURVIVORS, and Jim Jaranson, vice-president of the board, will present a paper entitled "Evaluating Services for San Diego Torture Survivors." Additional information about the conference can be found at the website [psychiatryandculture.org](http://psychiatryandculture.org).

## Contact Information

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"SURVIVORS is where broken souls can be healed."  
 - 23 year old African client

## SURVIVORS Hosts Successful Event

SURVIVORS held its third annual *Helping Survivors Heal* fundraising luncheon on September 10, 2013. Over 200 guests gathered to learn about the inspiring work of SURVIVORS and how we are helping torture survivors and their families heal. Highlights from the event included a live performance from Peter, a musician and former client, who has now been reunited with his family and is pursuing a career in a healthcare profession.

*“Before I was crying tears of sadness. Now my tears are of joy.” -Peter*

Another former client, Mana, shared how SURVIVORS and the United States has made her who she is today.

Additional inspiring stories were shared through video, and guests heard from SURVIVORS’ executive director, Kathi Anderson, about how our services are improving the lives of torture survivors. New SURVIVORS board member Mel Kieschnick asked the community to join him and his wife as Healing Society members. In all, close to \$90,000 were raised. “We are so grateful for the support of our community and sponsors that allow us to do this vitally important work,” said Kathi Anderson.

If you would like to help SURVIVORS continue this work, please consider making a donation in the enclosed envelope or contact us for information on how to be involved with next year’s event (September 10, 2014) as a sponsor, table captain, guest or volunteer.

## Thrivent Financial Opportunity

If you are a member of Thrivent Financial, you have an easy, convenient way to help support what matters most to you. The Thrivent Choice program offers ways members can recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable funds each year.

Thrivent members can designate their Choice Dollars by recommending charitable grant funding of their choice among 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organizations, now including SURVIVORS.

To direct your Choice Dollars or verify your eligibility to participate in the program, visit [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) or contact your local Thrivent Financial representative. Choice Dollars in 2013 must be directed by March 31, 2014.

## Thank you to our 2013 Helping Survivors Heal fundraising luncheon sponsors!



## Human Rights Watch Film Festival Comes to San Diego in January

The Museum of Photographic Arts, in community partnership with SURVIVORS, is honored to host the fourth year of the Human Rights Watch Film Festival in San Diego. This powerful festival creates a forum for courageous individuals on both sides of the lens to empower audiences with the knowledge that personal commitment can make a difference. The film festival brings to life human rights abuses through storytelling in a way that challenges each individual to empathize with and demand justice for all people. For a list of films and ticket information, please visit [www.mopa.org/hrwff](http://www.mopa.org/hrwff). The film festival runs January 23-26, 2014.



*“My Afghanistan: Life in the Forbidden Zone” is one of the films to be screened at the festival.*

Raise money for SURVIVORS at no cost to you! When you use your Ralphs club card, a percentage of your purchase can be donated to SURVIVORS. To enroll go to [www.ralphs.com](http://www.ralphs.com) and click on “Community Contribution.” Select “Participant” and enter #84761. **Note: you must re-enroll each September or later.**



## About Us

Survivors of Torture, International was incorporated in February 1997 in response to a need in our community to bring assistance to a segment of the population that struggles with the wounds of politically motivated torture. It is estimated that at least 11,000 survivors of torture live in San Diego County and 500,000 live in the United States. Torture survivors may be left with lifelong physical and mental health problems if not treated by trained professionals.

Since 1997, SURVIVORS has engaged a caring network of professionals — board members, interpreters, therapists, physicians, dentists — and all of you in the community who give support and encouragement in many ways. To date we have served more than 1,500 clients from over 80 different countries. Your support enables us to help torture survivors rebuild their lives. Treatment helps survivors heal, reconnect with their families, go back to school, and find employment.

**Ninety cents of every dollar raised goes directly to SURVIVORS’ programs.**

## Healing Society Members

Members of the Healing Society make generous five-year pledges

*Kathi Anderson & Jesse Rivera*

*Jane & Dale Bacon*

*Jeanette Barrack*

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*Jean M. Greaves & Greg Olmstead*

*Jim Hanson*

*Dr. Jim Jaranson Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation*

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*Stephen W. McCallion*

*Howard & Lianne Moseley*

*Pat Olafson*

*Marlene Ruiz*

*Nancy Sweeney*

*St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, San Diego*

## Thank you to all of our financial supporters!

Because of you, survivors are rebuilding their lives. We are grateful. **These lists cover the period of April 1 - September 30, 2013.** We apologize for any errors or omissions and extend our gratitude for support that may not have been recognized. (Please contact us at 619-278-2400 with corrections.)

## Individual Financial Supporters

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## Organizations That Financially Support SURVIVORS

*American Immigration Lawyers Association*

*Benevolent*

*California State Employees Charitable*

*Campaign (CSECC)*

*Change A Life Foundation*

*Christ Presbyterian Church, Carlsbad*

*Chula Vista Presbyterian Church*

*County of San Diego, Health and Human*

*Services*

*Encinitas Coastal Rotary Club*

*Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund in memory of*

*Lussja Firl, Holocaust victim*

*Funding Factory*

*Human & Civil Rights Organizations*

*of America, a Federation in the*

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*Kaiser Permanente, San Diego Medical*

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*Mo'olelo Performing Arts Company*

*Molina Healthcare*

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*Pacific Southwest*

*San Diego County Employees*

*Charitable Organization*

*(CECO)*

*Shepherd of the Valley*

*Lutheran Church, La*

*Mesa*

*The Kroger Company*

*The Thrivent Choice Program*

145 new clients and 116 ongoing were served during fiscal year 2013 (Oct. 1, 2012-Sept. 30, 2013)

Our clients were tortured in their home countries due to their race, religion, nationality, social group, or political opinion.

## Client Demographics

### Geographic Origins

Africa	95
Middle East	118
Latin America	34
Asia	8
Eastern Europe	6

### Ages

0-6	6
5-13	20
14-17	6
18-24	38
25-44	142
44-64	40
65+	9

### Gender

Males	128
Females	133

## Women PeaceMakers Visit SURVIVORS

SURVIVORS welcomed a visit from the 2013 Women PeaceMakers from the University of San Diego's Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice. "It is an honor to spend time with these amazing women who are working to promote human rights and peace," said Kathi Anderson, SURVIVORS' executive director. "They, in turn, are heartened to know that programs like ours exist. Even though we are separated by great distance, we share a common goal of honoring the dignity and inherent worth of all people."



The 2013 Women PeaceMakers. From left to right: Sabiha Husić of Bosnia-Herzegovina; Philister Baya Lawiri of South Sudan; SURVIVORS' Kathi Anderson; Rehana Hashmi of Pakistan; and Rutuparna Mohanty of India.

**SURVIVORS**  
 OF TORTURE  
 INTERNATIONAL  
 Survivors of Torture, International  
 P.O. Box 151240  
 San Diego, CA 92175-1240  
 Change Service Requested

**The Strength to Survive. The Power to Heal**

Join us on a Journey to Healing tour to learn how we are helping to rebuild torture survivors' lives.

Upcoming Journey to Healing Dates:

- Thursday, December 5 8:00-9:00 a.m.
- Thursday, January 9 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, January 22 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, February 5 8:00-9:00 a.m.

For more information go to [www.notorture.org/events](http://www.notorture.org/events) or call 619-278-2400.

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