



THE SURVIVOR

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 is exactly where broken souls can be healed. This is a place, I found my long gone home and started a new life. I am very grateful for the services and support.”

- SURVIVORS' client who wishes to remain anonymous

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COVID-19: The Focus Is Still on Client Healing . . . Even While Socially Distanced

As the world responds to the widespread effects of COVID-19, SURVIVORS continues to serve our clients in the most impactful ways possible.



Garcia delivering drop-offs to clients

1User friendly, client-focused video platforms and one-on-one support for virtual therapy and case management. “We have been supporting our clients to help them become more computer literate, for example, teaching them how to access telehealth,” says Winona Garcia, clinical case manager.

2Access to resources remains difficult for our clients who are some of the most vulnerable residents of San Diego. Many in the hospitality industry have had

their work hours cut and they are not eligible for most benefits. Also, as of August 2020, the waiting period for asylum seekers to apply for a legal work permit in the United States was increased from 180 to 365 days. Garcia adds, “Imagine waiting a year to work and having no other stable means of financial assistance.” SURVIVORS has increased support to clients by enlisting volunteers to drop off basic needs packages of food, hygiene, cleaning supplies and personal protective equipment.

3For our newcomer students in the Cajon Valley Union School District, news of widespread losses as a result of COVID-19 has “retriggered traumatic grief and increased anxiety and irritability,” says Jack Brennan, children and family therapist. Our clinicians have proactively responded by utilizing creative virtual art therapy, interactive card games, and trauma-informed activities to support the social, emotional, and developmental needs of vulnerable students.

4We continue to connect with our community and valued donors, remotely. “Since March, we’ve hosted more than 256 guests on virtual *Journey to Healing* tours to foster a welcoming community

for our clients and their families.” says Katrina Pimental, community relations manager. As we hosted our first-ever virtual fundraiser, our generous underwriters allowed 100% of donations to go directly to client services.

5For clients who are held in detention centers as they await their immigration court hearings, this hardship can be especially difficult. SURVIVORS continues its Cards of Hope project by sending handwritten letters to clients to remind them that they are not alone.

. . . and Even When in Mexico

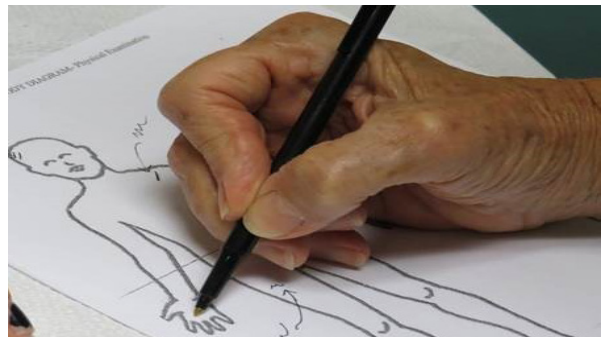
SURVIVORS is located less than 20 miles from Tijuana, Mexico, the busiest land border crossing in the western hemisphere. The changes to U.S. asylum policy immediately affect our clients and demand a swift response. The Migrant Protection Protocol (MPP) or “Remain in Mexico” policy implemented in June 2019 has impacted thousands of asylum seekers. Due to MPP paired with COVID-19 risk factors, those seeking legal, humanitarian protection in the United States, some of whom are torture survivors, were left without our type of assistance. As a result, SURVIVORS felt compelled to provide services to asylum-seeking torture survivors at the Tijuana border.

Our recent partnership with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) allows us to expand our services to ensure that torture survivors are assisted at the border. We have found that asylum seekers who have immigration lawyers and professional psychological and medical evaluations have an approximate asylum grant rate of 80%. With the support of the UNHCR, we are now able to provide remote psychological evaluations to clients in Tijuana. We will expand to providing in-person evaluations as soon as it is safe to do so. “The “Remain in Mexico” policy may keep asylum-seeking torture survivors “out of sight” but they are never “out of mind” at SURVIVORS. Additional info on MPP available at: <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/tag/remain-in-mexico>

Increasing Awareness Benefits Survivors

Though torture research is available worldwide, physicians in the United States are often unaware that their own patients have been tortured. While San Diego is home for many torture survivors, a lack of awareness in healthcare of how to recognize torture survivors could mean that many may be left untreated.

For this reason, SURVIVORS' pro bono medical evaluators, Dr. Lydia Grympa and Dr. George Longstreth, took the initiative to write an article concerning a relatively unknown (in the U.S.) physical sign of torture to be published in March in *The American Journal of Medicine* titled "Foot Torture (Falanga): Ten Victims With Chronic Plantar Hyperpigmentation." The article describes falanga as a repetitive and blunt trauma inflicted on the soles of the feet as a form of torture. Falanga can immobilize victims, limiting their walking abilities for up to 10 weeks and can cause wounds that are recognizable for a decade. The authors note that "knowledge of this finding should also help physicians who care for tortured patients". Publications of this nature assure that all torture survivors can be better served with trauma-informed healthcare practices. We are grateful for these physicians who seek to contribute to healing of torture survivors locally and worldwide. Article now available online at PubMed with PMID #32941848.



Pro Bono physician completes a medical evaluation for a client

**Thank you to our 2020 Helping Survivors
Heal Virtual Fundraising Event Underwriters!**

JacobDean
CONSTRUCTION

Josephson-Werdowatz & Associates

Molina Healthcare

Nautilus General Contractors, Inc

Native Interpreting

Rehab Strategies

Thrivent Financial Office of Jonathan Doering and

Matthew Molstre

MUFG Union Bank Foundation

Supporting Our Local Legal Service Providers

Supporting survivors of torture requires a vast network of community members and multi-disciplinary partnerships. When our clients seek legal assistance, it is often necessary to disclose personal details regarding the extreme trauma and unimaginable events that led to fleeing their home. In the legal profession, it is normal to experience secondary traumatic stress, or vicarious trauma, while engaging empathetically with a client. Jim Friedrich, a contracted licensed clinical social worker of SURVIVORS, said, "The symptoms experienced

by these workers often mirror what the victims of torture have described and can truly be traumatic." In response, the UNHCR made it possible for us to partner with a Minnesota-based sister organization, The Center for Victims of Torture, to provide resiliency support and training for legal service providers in San Diego focusing on:

1. Balancing boundaries with the demands of the profession;
2. Understanding and processing feelings of helplessness; and
3. Fostering long-term sustainability in the field of immigration.

To whole-heartedly serve our clients at SURVIVORS, it means that we promote self-care for those who are in service roles themselves. This partnership makes it possible to invest in the health and well-being of our colleagues in the legal profession. Friedrich reported, "The response of immigration attorneys to these training sessions has been strong and they are quite responsive to the opportunities being offered through the group process and individual coaching." SURVIVORS knows this training is mutually beneficial for our clients and their advocates.

Eighty-six cents out of every dollar raised goes directly to SURVIVORS' programs.
Support SURVIVORS through alternative giving and everyday activities.
Visit notorture.org/donate to learn more.

SURVIVORS is an IRS 501(C)(3) non-profit and an IRC-accredited torture treatment center. We are eligible to receive tax-deductible gifts to the extent allowed by the law.

Our Federal Tax ID Number is 33-0743869.



Healing Society Members who have made five-year pledges of \$1,000 or more per year. **Thank you!**

Joyce Anderson	Jan Gallo	Angela & Matthew Kilman	Tom & Brooke Nagle	William & Martha Radatz
Kathi Anderson & Jesse Rivera	Jean Greaves & Greg Olmstead	Philip Kuey & Emily Hart	Darrell Netherton & Robert Wheeler	Grant Reeder
Jeanette Barrack	Lydia Grympa & Bob Oakley	Rebecca LeVasseur	Jan Neuhaus	Marlene Ruiz
Brad & Gigi Benter	Rick & Ann Hein	George & Karen Longstreth	Pat Olafson	St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, San Diego
Steve & Carmen Berry	Paula Herring & Tim Botsko	Ann McDonald	Kathleen Owens	Richard & Tracy Vevia
Candace Carroll & Len Simon	Nancy Holland	Michael & Mary McKay	Sharon Payne	Scott Williford
Maryann Dean & Bill Barclift	Dalia & Gordon Hunt	Kate Miller	Natalie Pearl Ilarraza	Nancy & Stewart Witt
Jonathan Doering	James Jaranson	Matthew Molstre	Sandra Peters	
Ann & Rich Durham	Carl Josephson & Laura Harris	Gene Morones	Mahesh Podar	
Denise & James Francis	Melvin & Jane Kieschnick	Howard & Lianne Moseley		

Individual & Family Financial Supporters who gave June 1, 2020 - September 30, 2020. **Thank you!**

Anonymous	Margaret Chung	Rosa Grant	Stephanie Lee- in honor of Jean Greaves	Pamela & Das Narayanadas	Alison St. John Inglis
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Sujin Chen		Noel & Jim Leary			

Organizations That Financially Support SURVIVORS who gave October 1, 2019 - September 30, 2020. **Thank you!**

Amazon Smile	Lawyers Club of San Diego Fund for Justice at The San Diego Foundation	San Diego County Health & Human Services	The Kroger Company
Cajon Valley Union School District	Michael Ehrenfeld Company	San Diego Unified School District, Community Service Association	The Peacemakers Fund
California State University-San Marcos	Molina Healthcare	San Diego Women's Foundation	Thrivent Financial Office of Jonathan Doering & Matthew Molstre
Calvary Lutheran Church, Solana Beach	MUFG Union Bank Foundation	SERRV International	Thrivent Financial - Thrivent Choice Dollars
Change A Life Foundation	Native Interpreting	Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, La Mesa	Transition Staffing Group
Chula Vista Presbyterian Church	Nautilus General Contractors, Inc.	State of California Office of Emergency Services	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Clipper Club of La Jolla Presbyterian Church	Pasadena Community Foundation- in memory of Patrick Otis Healy	Structural Technologies	United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture
Curology, Inc.	Pacifica Synod- ELCA	The Benevity Community Impact Fund	Universal Spirit Center
Grossmont Healthcare District	PayPal Giving Fund	Intuit Matching Program	U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Office of Refugee Resettlement
Jacob Dean Construction	Preen Publishing, LLC	The California Endowment	
Josephson, Werdowatz & Associates, Inc.	Price Philanthropies Foundation		
LANsolutions LLC	Rehab Strategies		
Law Offices of Jonathan D. Montag			

Client Services: Despite the stay-at-home orders implemented in San Diego in March 2020, SURVIVORS has continued to positively impact torture survivors through a variety of client-focused, trauma informed, safe and precautionous methods. Please refer to the resiliency services to the right.

SURVIVORS' Resiliency Services	Number
<i>Virtual Therapy Sessions</i>	308
<i>Virtual guests at Journey to Healing Tours</i>	256
<i>Handwritten Cards of Hope for Detainees</i>	129
<i>Basic Needs Packages Drop-Offs</i>	88
<i>Newcomer Student Virtual Sessions</i>	38
<i>Essential Supplies and PPE Donors</i>	20
<i>Delivery Volunteers and Interns</i>	16

SURVIVORS Earns a "Give with Confidence" 100/100 Rating




SURVIVORS is proud to announce that our strong financial health and ongoing accountability and transparency have earned a 100/100 rating from Charity Navigator's new Encompass Rating System. This score designates SURVIVORS as an official "Give with Confidence" charity. Since 2001, Charity Navigator has been America's largest unbiased and trusted independent charity evaluator, with more than 8.5 million annual users. We hope this will introduce our work to new supporters who can help us advance our mission to help torture survivors and their families rebuild their lives. Charitable giving information free of charge is found here: <https://www.charitynavigator>.

Notice of Blackbaud Breach

It is our responsibility to notify you that our database vendor, Blackbaud, has informed us of a data security breach. Blackbaud discovered and stopped a ransomware attack before any encrypted files were breached. SURVIVORS was not an affected party. Sensitive data, such as credit card information, is not stored on our Blackbaud database. We do not believe you need to take any further action. As a reminder, we do not solicit donations via phone calls so be aware if you are telephoned by someone claiming to be us, especially if they don't specifically say they are with "SURVIVORS of Torture, International."




 Survivors of Torture, International
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SURVIVORS' audited financial statements, completed by Sommenberg & Co. CPAs, for fiscal year 2020, are found at GuideStar.com


LOOK INSIDE!
 To find out about SURVIVORS contribution to The American Journal of Medicine!

#Giving Tuesday: December 1 marks the beginning of the charitable giving season! Your generous donations support our clients and their families as they rebuild their lives.

CARES Act 2020: Your charitable contributions now allow you to now have greater tax deduction options. From 1% of your adjusted gross income \$600, your donations can provide even greater benefits this giving year.


 #GIVINGTUESDAY