Helping Survivors of Torture since 1977

CANADIAN CENTRE FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE

Annual Report 2010-2011

United Way of Greater Toronto
Without you, there would be no way.

CAW TCA CANADA

Ontario

The Ontario Trillium Foundation
La Fondation Trillium de l'Ontario

Citizenship and Immigration Canada
Citoyenneté et Immigration Canada

TORONTO

Charity No.: 133327908 RR0001

Table of Contents

Mandate	3
A message from the Executive Director	4
A message from the Chair of the Board	6
Program Manager Report	8
Settlement Program Report	10
Child and Youth Program Report	12
Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) Program Report	16
Volunteer Program Report	18
Language and Skills Training Report	20
CCVT Programs	23
CCVT in Pictures	24
Financial Report	26
Legal Committee Report	28
Public Education Committee Report	30
International Committee Report	33
Health Committee Report	36
Board of Directors	38
Health Network Members	39
Legal Network Members	40
Partnering Organizations	41
CCVT Staff	43
CCVT Clinical Service	46
CCVT Doctors	47
CCVT Survivors	48
CCVT Statistics	50
Individual Donors	53
CCVT Volunteers	55
Our Supporters and Patrons	56
Source of Funds and Donor Organizations	57
Contact Us	58
Former Award Recipients	59

TABLE OF FIGURES			
Figure 1: CCVT Survivors	48	Figure 5: Gender	51
Figure 2: Referral Sources	50	Figure 6: Marital Status	52
Figure 3: Internal Referrals	50	Figure 7: Client Education	52
Figure 4: Age	51		

CCVT Mandate

The Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture (CCVT) aids survivors to overcome the lasting effects of torture and war. In partnership with the community, the Centre supports survivors in the process of successful integration into Canadian society, works for their protection and integrity, and raises awareness of the continuing effects of torture and war on survivors and their families.

The CCVT gives hope after the horror.

Message from the Executive Director

Mulugeta Abai
Executive Director

2010 has been a challenging year… As in the previous years ordinary men, women and children were disregarded or grossly abused in every corner of the globe. Economic interests, political hypocrisy and socially orchestrated discrimination continued to fan the flames of conflict around the world.

The indifference, apathy and impunity that allow violence against millions of women to persist are shocking. In countries around the world, women suffer many forms of violence including genital mutilation, rape, beatings by partners, and killings in the name of honor are now international treaties and mechanisms, laws and policies designed to protect these women still fall far short of what is required. In addition, there is a real danger of a backlash against women's human rights from conservative and fundamentalist elements.

Sixty years ago, out of the ashes of the Second World War, a new world order came into being, putting respect for human rights alongside peace, security and development as the primary objectives of the UN. Today, the UN appears unable and unwilling to hold its member states to account.

The fight against torture has been further complicated by global economic crisis, which continues to severely limit the funding available to assist survivors of torture in the rehabilitation process.

At the national level, the ability of the state to protect human rights is in crisis. In some places, armed groups – warlords, criminal gangs or clan chiefs – hold sway over people's lives. We need to work harder for a sober reappraisal of what needs to be done to revive the human rights system and our faith in its abiding values.

CCVT has assisted a total of 2272 clients from over 79 countries, providing a range of therapeutic services. CCVT has also collaborated with several agencies at home and abroad to strengthen the global human rights movement and to hold governments accountable to the international human rights treaties and conventions. CCVT has also provided training to settlement counselors, educators, health professionals, private sponsors, faith groups on the effects of torture and war and has also received visitors from United Kingdom, Sweden, South Africa, United States, Denmark and Russia.

Message from the Executive Director (continued)

CCVT was also one of the five (5) organizations selected for innovation and transformation and breaking new ground in conceptualizing and developing mental health service. CCVT staff, volunteers and board members participated in numerous training, workshops and conferences.

CCVT is coordinating the East Downtown Local Immigration Partnership (EDTLIP) which has grown to include 65 member organizations. The working groups include Immigration and Settlement, Health/Mental Health, Housing, Social and Cultural Inclusion, Employment, Training & Language Instruction, Seniors, Women and Youth.

As we move forward, the challenges ahead are many. Nevertheless, we will face the challenges with renewed energy and confidence. We do so believing that all around us there are people who are willing to support us in our effort to work with individuals and families who have been victimized by brutal regimes.

Helping torture survivors overcome their trauma and rebuild their lives requires extensive expertise and skills. We could have not done all the work that is explained in the pages to follow without the commitment of the dedicated board members in providing policy leadership, all health and legal committee and network members, CCVT staff and volunteers, our donors and funders from all levels of government.

We hope we can count on your support for years to come as we move forward with vigor and determination to help survivors of torture regain their dignity.

Mulugeta Abai
Executive
Director

Holiday Party 2010

Message from the Chair, Board of Directors

Dr. Susan McGrath
Chair of the Board

The year of 2011 has been a challenging time for the settlement sector in Ontario and CCVT has worked to adapt and respond. The "modernization approach" of our primary funder the Canadian Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration (CIC) has resulted in significant funding cutbacks for Ontario which are continuing into 2012. CCVT has managed these cuts through restructuring while maintaining our core services and commitments. We are fortunate to have a team of skilled and dedicated workers supported by trained volunteers and led by an experienced and committed Executive Director.

We continue to provide services at three locations: in Scarborough on Eglinton Avenue, at The Hub on Victoria Park where we run a part-time program and downtown at our main site on Jarvis Street. With the support of a network of professional services which includes doctors, lawyers, social service workers and volunteers, our staff deliver needed counseling, settlement and mental health services to clients who are trying to recover from the trauma of their experiences as they learn to live in Canada. We work collaboratively with a range of organizations and agencies regionally (e.g. Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants, the University of Toronto, York University), nationally (e.g. the Canadian Council for Refugees, the Immigration and Refugee Board, Canadian Network for the Health of Survivors of Torture and Organized Violence), and internationally (e.g. the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, Amnesty International, the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims). Our public education program provides information and consultations on torture and its effects, produces our own publication *First Light* and presents at national and international conferences. We speak out on current issues and policy changes. We provide support and training to other centres in Africa, Asia and Europe.

For three years, CCVT has provided strong leadership to the East Downtown Local Immigration Partnership (EDTLIP) which has grown to include 65 member organizations participating in the planning of settlement services for the east downtown area. CIC is restructuring the LIP program which means that the funding for the EDTLIP will end on March 31, 2012. We will work with our partners on the restructuring process.

Message from the Chair, Board of Directors (continued)

In response to the changing economic context and to try to improve the revenue base of CCVT, we have brought the fundraising activities into the organization. We have created the new position of Fundraising Manager and have just filled it. With strengthened partnerships and increased resources, we will continue to build our role as a Centre of Excellence – a national hub for research, education, collaboration, community-building and the development and distribution of effective models of practice. We are fortunate to have strong staff and volunteer leadership for this initiative. Our recent successful First Light celebration was a testimony to the excellent networks of support of CCVT. Finally, I want to recognize the commitment and contributions of the members of the Board of Directors with whom I have had the honour to serve. CCVT continues to strive to build circles of solidarity with our clients and the larger community in order to bring hope after the horror.

Dr. Susan McGrath
Chair, Board of Directors

First Light Celebration 2010

Program Manager Report

Dr. Teresa Dremetsikas
Program Manager

This year was as busy as the previous years and CCVT staff has worked hard to make sure our services remain relevant to all survivors of torture. Some of the highlights this year include :

- Conducted needs assessment to identify gaps and emerging needs
- Client Advisory Committee was formed to assist with assessment and evaluation
- Evaluation to identify where our strength lies and to work on areas that require improvement or re-engineering
- Several training and information sessions were organized for all CCVT staff which includes:
  1. Penelope Database
  2. Refugees and Trauma
  3. International Human Rights Instruments
  4. Panel Discussion on Impunity
  5. Culturally appropriate Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (for French and Spanish Speaking clients)
  6. Vicarious Trauma
  7. Mental Health of Newcomers
  8. Language Instruction Program:
     a) "Achieving Success with ESL Software",
     b) "A support and Supervision Model for LINC/ESL Instructors",
     c) Introducing ROLLR.ca Repository of Online Language Learning Resources"
  9. Training for Employment Support Service
- Graduate students from: Faculty of Social Work, Faculty of Medicine, Centre for Ethics U of T and George Brown College were accepted as student placements to learn about the work of CCVT and to assist settlement and trauma counselors in the day to day work

Skills Training Workshop

Program Manager Report (continued)

- Plan developed to start the Centre of Excellence
  a) Resource sharing: building CCVT's role as a resource centre and access point for sharing information, tools and resources and to create physical and virtual interaction between stakeholders
  b) Research: building on existing research partnerships and generating new themes and opportunities to further
  c) Public Education and Training: Expand CCVT's role in public education and in the development of curriculum and related tools for schools, colleges and universities
  d) Capacity-building: Build CCVT's activity level and resources to support existing and emerging groups, organizations and institutions across Canada
  e) Service delivery: Development, piloting and promoting implementation of programs and service delivery that reflect CCVT's model of service
- The East Downtown Local Immigration Partnership that started with 28 organizations now has over 60 organizations actively participating in different planning tables
- CCVT opened a third office at Victoria Hub to make its services available to survivors living in the priority neighborhood
- The partnership with Mount Sinai remains strong and vibrant. Joint presentations were conducted at:
  a) Mount Sinai at the Public Health School: Peter A. Silverman Centre for International Health, Mount Sinai Hospital & Centre for International Health Dalla Lana School of Public Health 2nd global health foundation course
  b) National Conference on Refugee Health
  c) Forum at CCVT on Rehabilitation of torture survivors through a Holistic Approach
  d) Presentation at the CAMH Residents in Psychiatric Academic day
  e) CCVT and Integrated Approach presentation at George Brown
  f) CCVT presentation at Ryerson University Immigrant Health Course
- Language Instruction and Skills training:
  a) Our Computer and Secretarial Course is progressing well. This year 23 students received certificates
  b) The Language Instruction and computer program in downtown is been expanded to include employment service and skills instruction.
- The children program activities continue to ensure access to vital services for children including counseling and recreational activities. We have started piano classes for youth
- The volunteer program recruited and placed volunteers to assist with different activities including:
  a) Language tutorials: 70 placements
  b) Befriending: 43 matches
  c) Interpretation: 145
  d) Scarborough branch has also recruited 50 active volunteers

Trauma Training Session

Settlement Program Report

Huda Bukhari
Settlement Program Manager

Through the Settlement Program, CCVT continues to play a critical role in the adjustment of newcomer survivors fleeing war and torture. In order to meet the needs of this unique community, an innovative approach in service delivery is used in the planning of services to support and encourage the growth and development of clients. Backed by a unique network of physicians, consultants, lawyers and a crisis intervention model, CCVT Trauma Counselors provide supportive one-on-one counseling throughout the different phases of the settlement process.

Thilaga Jeganathan
Settlement Coordinator
Scarborough

The Settlement service is provided through an initial needs assessment to determine which supportive services are initially required for a client: one-on-one counseling, referral to the networks of physicians, lawyers and consultants, crisis intervention, support groups or the provision of information and orientation sessions. Settlement staff are well trained and equipped to meet the special needs of all clients. Staff attended several training opportunities to increase the already rich pool of skills and cultural competencies they embody. These training sessions included: Mt. Sinai's Trauma Training and Sector Training at the OCASI Conferences, among others.

During the 2010-2011 year, CCVT provided services to 2272 new clients representing 80 countries. Clients' most presenting concerns were in the area of trauma issues, with almost 50% of clients presenting trauma issues.

Initial Assessment and Action Planning

Last year, CCVT conducted assessments of over 2400 clients. These clients have had their needs assessed, the barriers they are facing addressed, their goals set and prioritized, and realistic plans developed for their settlement needs. Most of the initial plans have had to deal with overcoming settlement barriers whilst addressing the trauma issues clients face as survivors. Thus, clients become cognizant of the services they will receive at CCVT, in a safe and comfortable space.

CCVT has taken the step of involving clients in service delivery; to that end, a Client Advisory Committee was selected from the client base to provide staff with input in service delivery and programs.

Enhanced Information and Adjustment Support

CCVT is very cognizant of the special needs of its clients. To that end, specific information sessions, such as family reunification and creating family and cultural adjustments, are very important. Services such as mental health, trauma counselling, mutual support groups, and youth and children programs are very important to clients and given a priority in CCVT program planning. CCVT has encouraged specific groups to form their own support groups, if they feel comfortable, and the Eritrean/Ethiopian support group has existed for the past few years. This year has seen the initiation of many additional support groups, including the Men's Support Group, the Spanish-Speaking Women's Group, the African Women Group, the African and Caribbean Women's Group, the Arab Group, the Seniors' Group, and the Cooking Ladies Group.

Settlement Program Report (continued)

Referral

CCVT's in-house referral to the Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) program is an essential means to steer clients to mainstream society by introducing them to English language classes. Most English language students are then able to attend other kinds of classes and meet with their counsellor on a regular basis. This is to provide a continuum of service to ease settlement. Clients are also referred to CCVT's in-house psychiatrists, should there be a need, as well as to other medical and legal networks. Referrals to other service organizations to address needs not provided by CCVT are also conducted on a regular basis. To date, there have been numerous referrals to our psychiatrists, psychologists and general practitioners. Doctors have an office at CCVT for easy access by clients.

Service Linking

Clients are serviced in their mother tongue as much as possible until they become more comfortable with the English language; the use of the volunteers as interpreters is available for the languages not currently covered by the staff. As well, CCVT volunteers take part in the English tutoring and befriending of clients, a service that is very popular. Additionally, the presence of English language classes at the premises of the downtown centre is an excellent referral point.

Service Bridging

To assist with non-settlement services, CCVT has created linkages where other non-settlement organizations are invited to attend sessions detailing information on survivors of torture and how to service them. These linkages include:

- A partnership with the East Storefront Scarborough, where a staff member provides services to clients once a week.
- Collaborations with the Oromo Canadian Community and San Lorenzo's Voces Latinas where a staff member provides Spanish services to clients once a week.
- A collaboration with Victoria Village Hub has commenced with two CCVT staff members providing settlement services to a growing client base, since December 6, 2010.
- CCVT staff have presented at the fall OCASI Conference to sector partners on the topic of children/youth within the Canadian educational system and assisting women survivors. These two sessions were very well received.

CCVT Client Information Session

Service Support

CCVT staff are trained in trauma and vicarious trauma and updated frequently through the network of psychiatrists and psychologists from St. Michael's and Mount Sinai Hospitals. Staff present case debriefings once a month to our in-house medical doctors. Staff are also provided sector training and encouraged to participate in relevant conferences to enhance their skills. Thus, staff knowledge is continually enhanced on the issues presented in the sector so as to allow staff to impart pertinent and informative service to their clients.

Child and Youth Program Report

Sidonia Couto
Child/Youth Counsellor

Christine
Child/Youth Counsellor
Scarborough

The Child and Youth Program continues to assume a holistic approach in addressing the social, emotional, academic, and health needs of children and youth clients who have survived torture and/or war. In the past year, children and youth have accessed a variety of CCVT's services and programs, including the Homework Club, Summer Quest Program, and Settlement and Mental Health Program. Via CCVT, these clients have received trauma counseling, been referred to medical and psychiatric specialists for documentation and treatment and received assistance with their settlement needs, including housing, immigration, education, employment and training, language acquisition, etc. Overall, the Child and Youth Program has been successful in ensuring that these clients' needs have been appropriately assessed and met.

Both the downtown office and Scarborough offices' Children and Youth Programs continue to be a vital parts of the CCVT community.

Key programs and services delivered in 2010-2011

- **Settlement Services** - Supporting families and youth in accessing housing, education, healthcare, community recreation, legal services and applying for Ontario Works.
- **Trauma Counseling -** Providing client-centered emotional support to survivors of torture/war, to assist them in managing post-trauma symptoms or concerns.
- **Employment Support** - Assisting families and youth with resume and cover letter writing, job-finding skills and interview skills.
- **Volunteer Support** - Providing youth clients with volunteer experience, to fulfill their 40 hours of community service required for secondary school graduation.
- **Individual and Family Counseling** - Sessions with children, youth and their families to address concerns within the family home or concerns about settling into Canadian society. In relation to this, the program provided a successful information session concerning "Parenting in Canada" catered to Iraqi newcomer parents.
- **Summer Quest -** Providing children and youth with recreational and educational trips in Toronto during the summer holidays.
- **Homework Club** - Supporting children and youth academically through tutoring support. This year, the Child and Youth Program also provided two volunteer orientations specifically for new homework club tutors/volunteers.
- **Referral** - Referring youth to local community centres, healthcare centres, employment agencies, educational institutions, food banks, places of worship and other appropriate agencies within the community.

CCVT Homework Club

Child and Youth Program Report (continued)

CCVT Homework Club

Children

Children continue to attend CCVT's homework club program, where they access after-school snacks, computers to help them with their school work, and individualized support from staff and volunteers for their academic needs. The homework club is run for two hours, three days a week. At the downtown office, 27 children were registered in the homework club, with an average of 15-20 children per session. This past year there was an increase in the number of children accessing the homework club at the Scarborough office. The Scarborough branch registered 52 children in the homework club with an average of 33 children per session. This year, 111 homework club sessions took place in each office. The children were able to express how beneficial they have found their experience of coming to CCVT.

Feedback from the children in regards to the Homework Club:

- CCVT is a place where we learn and have fun at the same time.
- CCVT helps us with our homework and we like the volunteers who help us.
- At CCVT we make lots of new friends.
- CCVT means happy, sharing, helping, loving, caring and kindness.

Participant Experiences

- *CCVT is a place where we learn and have fun at the same time.*
- *CCVT helps us with our homework and we like the volunteers who help us.*
- *At CCVT we make lots of new friends.*
- *CCVT means happy, sharing, helping, loving, caring and kindness.*
- *CCVT is a place to socialize and have end of the month pizza parties.*

Holiday Party 2010

The children enjoy attending the Homework Club. The program provides an environment where they are able to learn and receive academic support, while also being able to socialize with their peers and make new friends, which is an integral part of their social/emotional development as children.

The views and thoughts of parents are also encouraged; they have expressed the following:

- *My child was too shy to read at home but seems more comfortable reading now.*
- *It's helpful for my child to come to the homework club because I am not able to help him with homework and he needs the help.*
- *I like the fact that the children have homework folders because my son is in grade one and he hardly has homework. I like that he has pattern work in his folder because that is the same thing he is doing at school.*
- *My child is happy to come to the CCVT homework club and I feel happy too.*

This past year a new initiative was introduced to the Homework Club at the Scarborough office whereby the youth who attend Thursday's homework club have been joining the Tuesdays and Wednesday's homework club in order to assist the younger children. This is empowering for the youth, who are able to showcase their own skills and talents by providing academic support to younger CCVT clients. At present, there are four youth taking part in this initiative, with two of the youth assisting on Tuesdays and the other two assisting on Wednesdays.

Child and Youth Report (continued)

CCVT Youth Group Trip: skiing and skateboarding at Earl Bales Park

Youth

The Child and Youth Program has provided individual settlement and mental health counseling to a large number of youth clients. There was a total of 255 new youth clients registered at the downtown office and 132 youth registered at the Scarborough office this past year. In particular, the child and youth program provides assistance to many youth clients who are unaccompanied minors. These clients are very vulnerable; however, CCVT's Child and Youth Program offers them relevant services which enable them to access education, employment, volunteer and social opportunities to ensure that they achieve economic and social success in Canada. CCVT's Child and Youth Program also advocates for many of these youth clients when they are experiencing barriers, and this has ensured that some of the clients have accessed university, employment, safe and affordable housing, community resources and gained convention refugee status. The downtown Child and Youth Program also provides counseling until 7pm, one day a week, to provide an accessible service to youth who are in school during the day.

In order to address the employment and training needs of CCVT's youth clients, they have been provided with the opportunity to take part in Information Sessions regarding a variety of topics including Drivers License Information, Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System, Employment Counselling, along with a Cashier Register Training Workshop which gave them the much required preparation they needed to obtain employment. In May-July of 2010 at the Scarborough Branch, 15 newcomer youth were provided with free employment training funded by the City of Toronto through Eglinton East/Kennedy Park partnership. The training included language-specific First Aid/CPR Training for Francophone youth.

CCVT's youth program also continues to ensure that our youth clients have opportunities to make friends and socialize with peers outside of their everyday school setting, so that they can develop their communication and interpersonal skills. At the Scarborough office, the homework club continues to give youth students the opportunity to socialize with friends. It is also important that CCVT's youth clients have access to opportunities for physical activity and stress relief. With this in mind, CCVT collaborated with the City of Toronto's Department of Parks, Forestry and Recreation this past winter season and was able to provide youth with the opportunity to receive two sessions of snowboarding and skiing lessons at Earl Bales Park in Toronto.
Youth clients from both the downtown and Scarborough offices were incredibly thankful for this new opportunity and noted that they never thought they would be able to engage in this activity.

Summer Quest

The summer of 2010 involved social, recreation and educational activities for children and youth. These events are especially important because many newcomer families do not have the financial resources to explore all the wonderful attractions that Toronto has to offer; however, via CCVT's assistance, these barriers were removed. The children took part in trips to the Ontario Science Centre, Toronto Botanical Gardens, Toronto Zoo, Toronto Centre Island, had a pizza-making day at Pizza Pizza, and a Science Activity Day at CCVT. In particular, the outings served to cement the relationship between CCVT and many newcomer government assisted refugee families, who took advantage of these recreational opportunities.

Child and Youth Report (continued)

CCVT's youth clients also continued to enjoy access to recreational opportunities which would otherwise be unaffordable for them. Throughout the summer of 2010, the youth enjoyed going to a Blue Jays game, to the Royal Ontario Museum, to the Toronto Island, to watch a movie at a theatre, canoeing at the Harbourfront, taking part in a fundraising youth car wash, attending a Bar-b-q and Youth Job Fair, and a taking part in a Youth Sports Day. These opportunities have been highly appreciated by the youth, as it has enabled them to create friendships with other newcomer youth, practice their English and see new parts of Toronto.

Piano Lessons Program

The Child and Youth Program at the downtown office began providing piano lessons to some of its children clients in January 2010. Since the start of the program, two dedicated volunteers have provided five children with piano lessons on a weekly basis. This has been highly beneficial for these children, who would not have had the opportunity to receive piano lessons otherwise. Music is well known to improve the learning of children in other subjects; therefore, CCVT hopes that it will be able to continue providing the piano lessons in the future.

Outreach and Public Education

The Child and Youth Program continues to maintain relationships with other settlement agencies, shelters, educational institutions and non-profit organizations via its phone, e-mail and in-person outreach. In the past year, significant contact has been made with Covenant House, COSTI Reception Centre, Toronto District School Board's Greenwood Secondary School and Bickford Elementary School, Peel Children's Aid, Woodgreen Community Services, YMCA, and a variety of other local youth-specific organizations. This guarantees that many children and youth continue to be referred to CCVT, which ensures that very recent newcomers become linked to CCVT as their primary source of settlement assistance.

Children's Activity

The Child and Youth Program has also conducted some particularly successful presentations, including at the Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants' Professional Development Conference. The Manager of Settlement Services and downtown Child and Youth Counselor provided a three-hour workshop to professionals in the settlement sector, aimed at sharing CCVT's expertise and knowledge about how to assess/recognize trauma in children, youth and their families, how to build relationships with these clients, and how to begin to intervene. The Child and Youth Program also conducted a public education presentation for a grade 5/6 class at Ossington Old Orchard Public School regarding child soldiers. At the request of the teacher, a presentation was provided detailing the reality of child soldiers. The presentation went remarkably well, and the children in the classroom were very engaged and had many questions and comments. In addition, the grade 5/6 classroom donated over 500 dollars of their own fundraising to CCVT, as a result of the presentation.

In the upcoming year, the CCVT Child and Youth Program will continue to implement more youth initiatives to attract more newcomer youth and to continually build upon its successes. Public education continues to be a priority for CCVT's Child and Youth Program, as it is important to educate the schools, other agencies, and the community as a whole about the unique needs of children and youth who have survived torture, war and/or political persecution in their home country. The hope is that the Greater Toronto Area and surrounding areas are aware of CCVT's services, including the Children and Youth Program.

Local Immigration Partnership Report

Ermelina Balla
LIP Program Manager

The creation of Local Immigration Partnerships across Ontario has helped pave the way for the development and implementation of well-coordinated and multi-sectoral settlement strategies for newcomer integration in Canada. Successful settlement and integration of newcomers has the potential to generate successful outcomes for both newcomers and receiving communities. Moreover, successful integration of newcomers into Canadian society can create more socially inclusive and cohesive communities and, furthermore, improve Canada's economic and global competitiveness. As such, the East Downtown Toronto Local Immigration Partnership (EDTLIP) has taken a leadership role in providing support for cross-sectoral collaboration among service providers in the neighbourhood in order to create sustainable and effective partnerships. The overall goal is to further enhance and coordinate service delivery in the neighbourhood.

CCVT is the lead agency that has assumed the responsibility to coordinate and advance the Local Immigration Partnership in the East Downtown Toronto area. The EDTLIP received funding from Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) for Phase II of the project in March 2011 and has begun the implementation process.

During Phase I of the project, all five Planning Tables along with the Steering Committee identified several strategic directions for the East Downtown Toronto neighbourhood. These strategic directions were based on an initial environment scan that was conducted, along with a newcomer needs assessment and community consultations. The overarching goal of the EDTLIP initiative is to understand the current/changing needs of the newcomers the community serves, the emerging gaps in services, and to make appropriate changes to better serve common clients. In order to address the needs/gaps in the community, members of the EDTLIP have laid out several strategic directions for the East Downtown Toronto neighbourhood.

EDTLIP Housing Working Group Meeting

The strategic directions that have been identified are as follows:

1) To enhance and coordinate service delivery,

2) To reduce access barriers for newcomers,

3) To foster a well informed and welcoming community,

4) To improve orientation, skills and professional development, and

5) To promote the successful integration of newcomers into the Canadian labour market.

Local Immigration Partnership Report (continued)

CCVT is pleased to announce that during Phase II of the project, the EDTLIP has successfully conducted the following activities/events:

- The EDTLIP has established three additional Newcomer Ad Hoc Committees for youth, women and seniors.
- The EDTLIP has also increased its membership to over 60 member agencies in the East Downtown Toronto area.
- All five Working Groups have continued to meet on a quarterly basis in order to plan for future implementation activities/events.
- In an effort to encourage information and resource sharing among agencies in the East Downtown Toronto neighbourhood, LIP staff have continued to publish the newsletter, *East Downtown Toronto Community Voices*, as well as send regular electronic updates to members.
- The EDTLIP hosted a community consultation with the Toronto Police Services, 51 Division.
- The EDTLIP held various trainings and workshops on topics such as concurrent disorders, working with survivors of trauma, vicarious trauma, mental health, tenants' rights, family reunification and HIV/AIDS.

EDTLIP: Community Consultation Session with Toronto Police Services, 51 Division

EDTLIP: Steering Committee

Volunteer Program Report

Historical Background

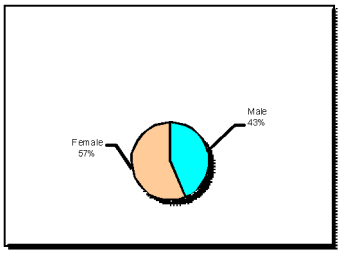
Volunteers have been always a vital part of CCVT. CCVT was founded by volunteers who were doctors, lawyers and social service professionals, many of whom were associated with Amnesty International.

Goals & Values

Understanding that the issue of torture is a social one, CCVT has deliberately chosen a community approach to its operations: it responds to torture as a collective disruption and fosters community building to counter the effects of trauma and dislocation through the Volunteer Program. Building communities is a two-way process tied to the characteristics of populations. As newcomers and survivors of torture, clients are under intense pressure to adjust to their new environment, to find ways of living with their trauma and to become active community members. Volunteers foster a range of informal and organizational competencies for dealing with everyday situations, from orientating newcomers to their surroundings to connecting them to institutional resources (educational, housing, health, employment, utilities or immigration services). Volunteers also gain a greater awareness of the daily barriers that refugees encounter during resettlement in Canada and of human rights in the international context.

Volunteer Appreciation Day

Clients and volunteers share their values and cultures with one another, and develop qualities of community building. More than instrumental ties, these relations grow into personal relationships. These relationships foster trust and reciprocity, and help build networks and opportunities for the articulation of grievances in the community.



Ultimately, the goals of Volunteer Programs are: to 1) assist survivors in making the transition from victims to active community members; 2) raise awareness about torture and war among the general public; 3) provide an effective means of cultural exchange in a non-threatening environment and in an atmosphere of trust and friendship, and 4) foster a strong community that speaks out against the practice of torture.

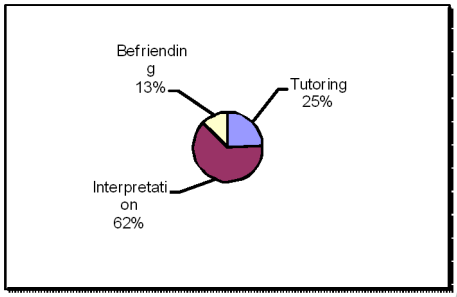
Volunteer Profile:

For this fiscal year, there were 235 volunteers at CCVT. There are more female volunteers (135) than male volunteers (100). Altogether, the volunteers contributed approximately 30,240 hours between March 2010 and April 2011 to the befriending, tutoring and interpretation components of the program.

Ontario Volunteer Award Ceremony

Training/ Workshops:

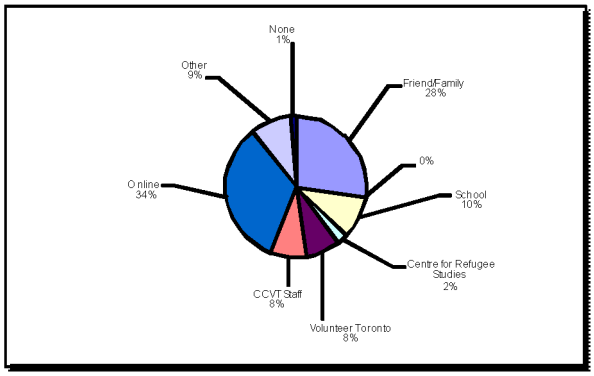
- Initial training for new volunteers, between April 2010 and March 2011, included nine orientation sessions held for 235 new volunteers recruited for the program.



Volunteer Program Report (continued)

Volunteer Programs:

- 43 befriending matches are in place.
- 70 ESL tutoring matches are in place.
- Approximately 145 clients were assisted through interpretation/escorting program. Our volunteers speak more than 60 languages altogether.
- Five Tax Clinic sessions were held at the Scarborough office.
- The weekly homework club for elementary and high school students, both in the downtown and Scarborough offices, was assisted by 18 volunteers.



Social Events:

- Refugee Rights Day events held in the week of March 30th and April 6th, 2010.
- World Refugee Day celebrations held at Queen's Park on June 20th, 2010.
- The Annual Picnic at High Park was held in July, 2010.
- The seventh *First Light* Celebration & CCVT Award Ceremony was held at the Arcadian Court in November 2010.
- Annual General Meeting and Holiday Party held at the Bickford Centre in December 2010.

1. The contribution of CCVT Volunteers in Settlement:

Because language acquisition can take longer due to trauma, communication challenges can also last longer – the volunteer provides regular opportunities for the client to practice their English in non-threatening "real-world" environments through regular interactions of the Befriending program as well as conversation circles.

Successful settlement cannot occur without newcomers feeling that they belong to some kind of community or without establishing new networks of friendship and/or professional affiliations -volunteers offer support and encouragement to a client who is coming to terms, not only with being a newcomer, but also with their traumatic past.

While CCVT counselors provide information and referrals to various available services and make appointments for them, it is often the volunteer who helps the client follow through on accessing the services by accompanying and providing important moral and emotional support. As one befriender said, "It is often not enough to simply provide information and refer – sometimes you have to take them by the hand and go with them to their appointments because they have so much anxiety."

Language Instruction and Skills Training Report

21 Years of the Language and Skills Training Program

For the past 21 years, the CCVT Language and Skills Training Program has been a key component in the recovery and successful rehabilitation of survivors of torture and organized violence. It is an organic part of CCVT's goal to offer survivors the will to live. In collaboration with the many other services at CCVT and in partnership with the community, the English as a Second Language and Skills Training program enables and supports survivors in the process of successful integration into Canadian society and promotes hope after the horror.

Abdul Abubaker
LINC/ESL Coordinator

Nurturing

The Language and Skills Training courses at CCVT are specifically adapted to the learning abilities and needs of their learners and are designed to develop the language proficiency and skills development of survivors. They nurture the individual and cater to the needs of adult learners who suffer from debilitating imprints that make the learning process harder and strenuous. Course teachers are highly qualified and specially trained and the curriculum is adapted to help students acquire skills related to their immediate and long-term life goals. The classroom atmosphere and supportive environment provides clients with encouragement, hope, community, social context and the help they need to progress with their language and social skills.

Experiencing torture, war and other forms of organized violence result in post traumatic stress disorder. CCVT has met the challenge of teaching English as a Second Language, Skills Training and resettlement issues through the years by fostering and addressing the needs of its clients by creating a "safe haven"; where clients feel safe in an environment where all specialized services are provided.

Elena Solokhina
Computer Instructor

Fostering Interpersonal Connections

A special feature of CCVT's Language and Skills Training Program is fostering interpersonal ties as an objective in and of itself and as a mediating link between survivors and the host community. Clients attend LINC, ESL and Skills Training programs not only to learn the language and skills, but to socialize and be among others who have come from and experienced similar traumatic situations. They come to the "family" where they know they are accepted. This is true, as many of the ESL clients are seniors who are able to socialize through interacting with the other students in the classrooms. This interaction helps to break their isolation and fosters an interaction with the younger clients.

The Classroom

Involvement in Language and Skills Training activities gives clients the opportunity to access CCVT's trained settlement staff, which provide other settlement needs and services which would otherwise be beyond their reach. One can see the effort put into language instruction at CCVT. It is not an ordinary class or learning environment, but a unique and specialized classroom for people who are torture survivors and suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder.

Language and Skills Training Report (continued)

Class levels available to clients range from low-beginner to advanced. Every year, CCVT provides language training for approximately 300 clients from 79 countries. Clients stay with the English language Programs for an average of three to 18 months, moving through language proficiency levels at their own pace. Classes are provided solely on CCVT premises so that clients and teaching staff will have access to counselors in case emotional or other needs arise.

Computer Assisted Classes

CCVT Language Program Expertise
CCVT is constantly seeking new ways to improve its programs through collaborative work with instructors, counselors, computer and secretarial program staff, volunteers and partner agencies. The CCVT Language Program has accumulated significant expertise in delivering services to traumatized immigrant and refugee learners, and in providing workshops and seminars for ESL and educational professionals. CCVT has already developed its reputation as an active and leading organization that can provide curriculum and deliver effective practices, as well as professional insight into newcomer and refugee learner issues.

Tutoring, Conversation Circles and Befriending
In cooperation with the volunteer program, the Language and Skills Training Program has enhanced the English tutoring and befriending program to include a significant number of its students. The Program has also introduced two conversation circles, facilitated by volunteers, to assist low-beginner and intermediate level students with their communication skills. Additionally, there is now have a successful Computer Assisted Language English Language Course that benefits the students tremendously.

Success and Recovery
The CCVT Language and Skills Training Program continues to be a critical component of a successful recovery program for clients. It is also the first point of contact with their new home in Canada. The English and Skills Training Program at CCVT has become a source of strength and support that helps clients resume their lives with independence, confidence and dignity.

Employment Services and Skills Training Program
This new program will help clients to be informed and equipped with new technology on their journey to successful employment. The Program includes:

1. Employment Workshop – interactive information and training sessions once a month on employment-related topics;
2. Basic Computer Skills Course;
3. Introduction to Secretarial Course; and
4. One-on-one employment counseling.

Language and Skills Training Report (continued)

Computer-aided CCVT Language Instruction Session

Secretarial and Basic Computer Courses

This year, the Program has successfully continued the Secretarial Course at CCVT. Twenty-one clients attended these classes.

The Basic Computer Course provided basic and advanced instruction in MS Office, the Internet and email. A total of 25 Basic Computer Course students, 18 female and seven male, attended these classes.

Abdul Abubaker, Language and Skills Training Coordinator

Trip to the Niagara Peninsula on a Sunny Day

CCVT Programs

- **Mental Health:** mutual support groups, crisis intervention, individual and group therapy, coordinated professional services, including legal, medical and social care that provide treatment, documentation and legal support. The use of group therapy assists survivors in learning to cope with the torture experience and transforms it into one that is understood and dealt with.

- **Settlement Services:** employment, housing, language and skills training, social assistance, applications for family reunification, sponsorships, and orientations based on the client's needs are provided to assist in settlement. Volunteers also facilitate the settlement process by providing interpretation, escorting, befriending and English tutoring.

- **Children & Youth Program:** individual and family counseling, specialized settlement services for children, crisis intervention, homework club, support groups for children, youth and parents, and recreational and empowerment activities that incorporate conflict resolution, mentoring, peer support and story-telling.

- **Language Instruction and Computer Training:** English as a Second Language courses which are specifically designed to meet the needs of survivors and include a strong life skills component. Classes include all levels of literacy: beginners, intermediate and advanced. Computer courses in Microsoft Office and Windows are provided at introductory and intermediate levels.

- **Volunteer Program:** a Befriending Program that assists survivors in rebuilding their connections to others as well as to the greater community; an ESL Tutoring Program to help students learn and practice their English; and an Escorting and Interpreting for survivors at different appointments (medical, legal, social). More than 200 volunteers assist in all programs of CCVT and hold monthly meetings, usually with a guest speaker. A structured orientation program prepares volunteer befrienders to work with torture survivors within a context of community understanding of global issues. The "CCVT Newsletter" is sent to all volunteers each month, which provides information on CCVT events, volunteer opportunities and job postings. A volunteer guide has also been prepared.

- **Public Education:** responds to numerous requests for information, assistance and consultations on torture and the effects of torture as well as regularly producing resource materials. CCVT's semi-annual publication "First Light", is produced, which discusses issues related to the CCVT's mandate and ongoing work.

- **International Projects:** CCVT is associated with a coalition of centres which support victims of organized violence, repression and torture, in exile or in their own countries.

Computer Graduates @ CCVT Jarvis Branch

CCVT in Pictures

Summer Picnic 2010

Mental Health Workshop for Seniors

Youth at a Skiing Trip

Scarborough Homework Club

Scarborough Branch Open House

Information Session on Family Reunification

CCVT in Pictures (continued)

Eritrean/ Ethiopian Senior Support Group

CCVT at the 2010 Launching of the United Way Campaign

Planting a tree during 2010 UN International Day in support of Victims of Torture

Summer Quest 2010

Support Group: Yoga Session

Computer Graduates

Senior Tamil Support Group

Financial Report

Revenues	2011	2010
Citizenship and Immigration Canada · ISAP · LINC · LIP	 1,080,343 304,170 259,704	 1,189,303 323,180 94,473
Ministry of Citizenship · NSP · Pay Equity	 77,351 23,311	 80,794 23,311
City of Toronto	23,880	23,410
Donations/Fundraising	179,095	202,998
United Way	232,542	232,542
United Nations	36,000	22,500
Human Resources & Skills Development Canada (New Horizons)	18,700	0
Trillium Foundation	61,808	37,392
CAW Social Justice Fund	1500	15,000
Honorarium	270	300
Foreign Exchange gain (Sundry)	20	0
Total Revenues	**2,298,694**	**2,245,203**
Total Expenses	**2,253,161**	**2,169,035**
Surplus	**45,533**	**76,168**

Financial Report
(continued)

Consolidated Schedule of Operations
Year Ended March 31, 2011

Expenses	2011	2010
Wages and benefits	1,614,897	1,537,107
Exchange Loss	5,171	18,390
Fundraising Expenses	83,346	73,815
Program Supplies and Expenses	127,308	122,228
Stationary & Administrative Supplies	11,744	8,121
Rent and Common Expenses	96,714	89,678
Travelling - Participants	30,366	17,851
Conferences and Meetings	16,029	20,833
Telephone	28,341	28,714
Maintenance and Cleaning	26,582	38,626
Bookkeeping	36,691	35,840
Resource production	24,598	-
Mortgage interest	17,429	15,622
Utilities	22,870	22,521
Postage and Courier	5,127	5,724
Insurance	7,502	7,198
Printing and Photocopying	29,793	10,935
Interest and Bank Charges	5,477	7,196
Professional Fees	9,078	6,094
Equipment Rental/Repair	3,411	9,889
Development and Travel	2,954	7.759
Dues and Fees	2,350	3,535
Publicity	9,677	5,421
Amortization	24,536	27,290
Funded Capital Purchases	7,511	44,343
Funded Renovation	1,939	
Volunteer Support	1,720	4,305
TOTAL EXPENSES:	**2,253,161**	**2,169,035**

Legal Committee Report

The CCVT Legal Committee is presently composed of three lawyers (in different fields of refugee/immigration law and human rights) and three staff members who act as liaisons by bringing any legal problems CCVT clients may have to the attention of the Committee. The Committee deals with legal matters arising from the CCVT mandate with the view of making CCVT work more effectively in serving its clients. It is also specifically active in the field of policy analysis, legal support and research as well as being involved in monitoring national and international human rights instruments regarding torture, genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and impunity, as well as instruments related to protection and rehabilitation of survivors, refugees and other uprooted people. The Committee recruits its members from the CCVT Board, Legal Network, staff and volunteers. It provides recommendations to the CCVT Board and includes at least one person from the Board and one CCVT staff member.

During the past year, the CCVT Legal Committee was involved in the following areas of policy support:

Bill C-11

The CCVT Legal Committee conducted extensive research on the government's proposed amendment to the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (Bill C-11) and developed concrete recommendations to address these changes. On April 9, 2011, CCVT wrote a detailed letter to Hon. Jason Kennedy, the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, to raise CCVT's concerns with regards to the proposed bill. Speaking on behalf all centres that work with victims of torture and war across Canada, CCVT shared its main concerns with regards to Bill C-11. The letter outlined problems that often arise for survivors of torture in response to the proposal to have refugee claimants interviewed within eight days of making a claim and to have their claims heard within two months. The letter also mentioned the inability of failed refugee claimants to submit an Humanitarian and Compassionate application within one year of their decision. It brought it to the attention of the Minister that such a provision would result in sending a number of traumatized failed claimants back to the place of their original torture.

Testimony before the Parliamentary Standing Committee

On Tuesday May 24, 2010, CCVT Policy Analyst and Researcher, Ezat Mossallanejad, appeared before the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration through a video conference and shared the concerns of the CCVT Legal Committee regarding Bill C-11. The Committee is pleased that at the final approval of the Bill, some of the CCVT's concerns were addressed.

Against Death Penalty

Based on recommendations from the Legal and International Committees, CCVT wrote a detailed letter to the Prime Minister of Canada and raised its concerns about a large number of people who are being killed through judicial systems around the world and a lot more who were awaiting their fate on "death row", particularly in countries like China, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and the USA. CCVT shared its utmost concerns about Iran, as it has the highest rates of executions in the world. By April 1, 2010, over 80 people were executed in Iran, while 388 executions took place in 2009, which were over half of the total 714 people who received death sentences around the world. Most of the people who are sentenced to death in Iran are often accused of "enmity against God", a term used for the people who oppose religious tyranny of the Iranian fanatical regime.

Legal Committee Report (continued)

Legal Aid Ontario
CCVT staff participated in the biannual meetings of the Consultation Committee of Legal Aid Ontario, along with refugee and immigration lawyers and activists in Ontario. Legal Aid issues CCVT clients face are numerous, including covering pre-removal risk assessment (PRRA), providing more funds for doctors for documentation, supporting people in limbo who need to seek remedies like applying for ministerial relief. Some clients have also needed Legal Aid support in seeking international remedies, such as complaining to UN treaty bodies and Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, etc.

Canadian Centre for International Justice
CCVT is one of the founders of the Canadian Centre for International Justice (CCIJ). From the first days of its establishment, the Legal Committee has been involved in monitoring CCIJ's activities in addressing the issue of impunity in Canada. Similar to CCIJ, CCVT is interested in bringing people who commit torture, genocide, and war criminals to justice and accountability.

Non-Citizens in Limbo
The Legal Committee has continuously and closely scrutinized the condition of non-citizens, specifically survivors of torture and war, in Canadian immigration "limbo". The Committee has provided feedback on the best practices to serve these types of clients on a continuous and case-by-case basis.

Clients' Refugee and Immigration Problems
Throughout the year, the Legal Committee provided CCVT with advice on the following issues: immigration "limbo", legal obstacles to family reunification and different kinds of inadmissibility problems. With close assistance from the Legal Committee, CCVT worked tirelessly to hasten the landing process of vulnerable survivors of torture, war, genocide and crimes against humanity.

Clients' Specific Problems
Following are some clients' specific problems that are addressed by the Legal Committee:
- Application for PRRA and Humanitarian and Compassionate reviews;
- CCVT staff members assisted CCVT clients with sponsorship, landing and citizenship applications, and the internal review and appeal process of clients whose social assistance and Ontario Disability benefit had been refused;
- Family reunification application of a client who had been accepted as a Protected Person; and
- Support for clients who were in the forensic section of the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) who had been criminally charged while living in the hospital.

Members
Co-chairs: Andrew Brouwer and Richard Wazana
Members: Christian Marshall
Staff Support: Ezat Mossallanejad, Jackie Gakumba and Selamawit Yohannes

Public Education Committee Report

Dr. Ezat Mossallanejad
CCVT Policy Analyst

Mandate
The function of the Public Education Committee is to contribute to the implementation of the organizational mandate to raise awareness of the continuing effects of torture, war, genocide and crimes against humanity on survivors and their families, and to work for their protection and integrity. The Committee strives to increase public awareness of torture, war, genocide and crimes against humanity, their effects and their global dimensions, and to contribute to the development of human rights theory and practice. CCVT is a learning centre, focusing on issues related to torture, other horrible international crimes, and human rights of survivors. Activities include research, the production and distribution of learning materials, onsite training and education programs for staff, volunteers, students and the community, as well as public forums and presentations - locally and globally.

During the past year, the Committee focused particularly on sensitizing the Canadian public (specifically youth) against torture, war, genocide, crimes against humanity and impunity. Special attention was paid to the prevention and eradication of torture, the protection of Canadian citizens and non-citizens against torture, impunity, the need for absolute prohibition of torture, the principle of non-refoulement, and the holistic rehabilitation of survivors of torture, war, genocide and crimes against humanity.

Training and Education
It is unfortunate that in the first decade of the 21st century the threshold for torture has gone up and this horrible crime is still being perpetrated in many countries. Despite some positive developments in the USA, the continuing negative impact of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on this country can still be felt. Some countries, including advanced industrial ones, continue to sanction torture in the name of "excessive measures" against suspected terrorists. While we must warn the public about the evil of terrorism, we also need to work against torture. All these have prompted CCVT to increase its efforts towards public education.

Collaboration
CCVT maintained a close collaboration with the Canadian Council for Refugees, the Canadian Centre for International Justice, York University, University of Toronto, Ryerson University, University of Ottawa, Wilfred Laurier University, George Brown College, Humber College, Seneca College, Amnesty International and the branch office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Way.

Partnership
CCVT continued with its successful partnership with the Centre for Refugee Studies at York University as well as a number of settlement agencies affiliated with the Local Immigration Partnership (LIP). The Scarborough branch of CCVT collaborated with the Scarborough East Store Front (an umbrella organization of settlement agencies) and the Steele's L'Amoreaux Local Immigration Partnership with regards to public education on health and legal services.

CCVT has also maintained its involvement with Mount Sinai Hospital in a training program on issues related to after-effects of torture, war, genocide and crimes against humanity. CCVT's collaboration with the Centre for Ethics at the University of Toronto continued during the past year. It worked as a link between community research and academic research. Along with University of Toronto professors, CCVT supervised students doing research on topics related to the CCVT mandate.

Public Education Committee Report (continued)

Public Awareness Workshops and Presentations

Following are some examples of workshops and presentations CCVT held over the past year:

- Conducted a workshop with the students at the University of Toronto on torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment;
- Participated in public awareness panels on human rights at York University;
- Provided a workshop on the challenges of settlement at the Oriel Community Centre for newcomers and their service providers;
- Participated in a panel discussion with other NGOs as part of a joint public education campaign with regards to Bill C-11 (amendment to the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act);
- Participated in a panel on Crime Against Humanity at Sheraton Hotel, Toronto;
- Provided a workshop for a group of activists from Amnesty International in Niagara on the Lake on the overview of international human rights instruments and mechanisms, impunity, the International Criminal Court and CCVT contributions;
- Conducted two half-day workshops on torture, trauma and rehabilitation to social work students at Wilfred Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario and to students at Seneca College (different campuses) on the issue of human rights, torture and trauma;
- Participated at the celebration of June 20th, the International Day of Refugee Protection, by providing an information table with CCVT staff members to answer questions about survivors and to educate the public about refugees' multiple talents and their contribution to the Canadian multicultural mosaic;
- Provided a public awareness campaign about the fundamental rights of humankind with special focus on impunity during the week of June 26th, 2010, the International Day in Solidarity with Victims of Torture and provided a panel at the CCVT premise on *Impunity: the Main Obstacle in Preventing Torture, Genocide and Crimes against Humanity*;
- Provided two information sessions on torture, war, trauma and impunity at the Centre for Ethics, University of Toronto;
- CCVT Policy Analyst and Researcher, Ezat Mossallanejad, provided three workshops to the activists, care-givers and students of the University of California, San Diego. He covered issues related to torture and human rights, including: 1) the scourge of torture in 21st century and the need for its exposure, prevention, eradication and absolute prohibition; 2) the need for rehabilitation of survivors of torture, war, genocide and crimes against humanity; 3) the overall situation of human rights globally; 4) the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; 5) the various international bodies established to monitor or enforce compliance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and 6) monitoring agencies and the general situation of human rights globally;
- Provided six workshops on gender-related torture and genocide for the students of George Brown College, Toronto;
- Provided workshops and information sessions to different ethnic communities in Toronto about settlement services for refugees and survivors of torture as well as on the human rights of survivors of torture, war, genocide and crimes against humanity;
- In collaboration with FCJ Refugee Centre, CCVT contributed towards the publication of the *Refugee Update*, a journal on refugee protection in Canada;
- Provided ongoing workshops to CCVT clients on various issues affecting their lives, including: migration, the refugee process, mental health, life skills, sponsorship, etc.; and
- Conducted frequent workshops to different groups of students at several Toronto high schools.

Public Education Committee Report (continued)

Following are some meetings CCVT attended during the 2010-2011 fiscal year:

- Two consultation meetings with Legal Aid Ontario;
- Different special meetings about severe mental health problems, including schizophrenia, at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), Toronto General Hospital and St. Michael Hospital;
- Two bi-annual conferences held by the Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR); and
- Meetings with the UNHCR legal office in Toronto on issues related to refugee protection and detention.

Various meetings and a conference of the Canadian Centre for International Justice (CCIJ). There is a strong link between the CCVT and CCIJ.

Learning Materials

CCVT's journal, *First Light*, continues to provide valued and critical commentaries on current issues along with information on CCVT's programs and activities. The last issue contains articles and research conducted by CCVT staff, volunteers, clients and supporters. *First Light* has and will continue to serve as a valuable means of education and public awareness. *First Light,* along with other research reports and public education materials, are available on the CCVT website.

Members

Chair: Susan McGrath
Members: Regine King, Mulugeta Abai and Chizuru Nobe
Staff Support: Ezat Mossallanejad, Teresa Dremetsikas and Huda Bukhari

.

Health Working Group

International Committee Report

The International Committee is monitoring the activities and services of a network of organizations that support survivors of torture, war, genocide and crimes against humanity and makes necessary recommendations to the CCVT Board of Directors. The Committee is also working towards monitoring and responding to the global issues related to prevention, exposure and eradication of torture, war, genocide and crimes against humanity. During 2010-2011, the International Committee was involved in the following activities:

The Arab Spring

On December 17, 2010, an event transpired in Tunis, the capital of Tunisia that would come to symbolize the first of a wave of popular uprisings that spread throughout the Middle East. A young, 26-year-old impoverished street vendor named Mohamed Bouazizi publicly set himself on fire after being humiliated and beaten by police. This shocking event led to mass demonstrations in Tunisia, resulting in the ousting of President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and his escape to Saudi Arabia. The revolt in Tunisia inspired a series of similar protests and uprisings throughout the whole region. In January 2011, the Egyptian people rose against President Hosni Mubarak, who had led the country for 30 years, forcing his resignation within 18 days. The popular uprisings have continued to impact the development of similar revolts, affecting Yemen, where President Ali Abdullah Saleh has also been forced to consider resignation within a short period of time. The waves of popular uprising have swept Jordan, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Oman and even Iran. The Committee has been monitoring developments in the Middle East with a view of serving clients from the region more effectively and advising the Canadian government to engage in effective and feasible interventions.

Extra-Judicial Killings in Pakistan

It is unfortunate that in many parts of the world, including Pakistan, “instant justice” is conducted on victims without giving them an opportunity of a fair trial. This phenomenon of extralegal killings in so-called police “encounters” is a matter of major concern for the CCVT. According to the data collected by the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP), 65 people were killed by law-enforcement agencies during the first three months of 2010. The killings in police custody have registered a sharp rise in recent years with the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) reporting that 226 people were killed in police custody in 2009. There is no dearth of evidence that most of the people are killed in staged firefights after taking the victims out of detention and shooting them on roads and highways. One of the reasons for continued extralegal killings is the existence of a dysfunctional accountability mechanism. Each death in custody is supposed to be looked into by a judicial authority; however, in many cases no judicial investigation are ordered and where one is ordered, the results has never made public.

The Case of a Canadian Citizen on Death-Row in Iran

With help from the International Committee, CCVT monitored the case of a Canadian citizen of Iranian origin on death-row in Iran. CCVT joined Amnesty International and a coalition led by the Romero House in Toronto in writing to the Iranian president and the Prime Minister of Canada to intervene. CCVT made an urgent appeal to the Prime Minister to intervene personally and save the life of the victim. CCVT mentioned documentation of dozens of cases of its Iranian clients who have been falsely accused of espionage with no evidence. CCVT raised its concerns about widespread use of torture and capital punishment in Iran and urgently appealed to the Canadian government to use all multilateral, bilateral and unilateral means as well as its moral authority in order to pressure the Iranian government and save the life of the Canadian citizen in Iran.

International Committee Report (continued)

Mapuche hunger-strikers

The Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture (CCVT) echoed the voices of the Amnesty International and scores of our sister agencies across the globe and raised deepest concerns about the state of the physical and psychological health of Mapuche hunger-strikers in Chile. We wrote to the President of Chile and the Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs and asked them to intervene. According to the Chilean register, there were 34 Mapuches on strike. 43 priests, nuns and religious missionaries also joined the strike. Their demands included the Chilean government's adherence to objective and impartial justice for Mapuche people, their right to fair trials and, in particular, non-implementation of the Terrorism Act against them. It is reported that hunger-strikers had lost between seven to sixteen kilograms and were suffering from nausea, dizziness, disorientation, low blood pressure and cramps. Many had been hospitalized due to organ failures, possibly without their consent, and then were returned to jails. With a population close to one million, the Mapuche people make up 87 percent of indigenous people in Chile. Since the late 19th century, they have systematically been forced out of their ancestral land.

Homophobia in Uganda

The CCVT joined the East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project (EHAHRDP), Protection International and Foundation for Human Rights Initiative, and other sister agencies to share its deep sadness over the brutal murder of David Kato, a brave and highly dedicated human rights defender and activist for the rights of Lesbian, Gay, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) persons in Uganda. We wrote to President Museveni of Uganda to reiterate the demands set forth by our sister organization in Africa, EHAHRDP. We requested him and his government to take immediate action to seek justice in the death of David Kato, and ensure protection for LGBTI persons in Uganda. We called on him, as the president of Uganda, to enact a full and independent investigation into the death of Mr. Kato; to ensure justice and the prosecution of those responsible for his death, with no impunity granted to those responsible; and to guarantee an end to harassment, discrimination, persecution and stigma against LGBTI persons in Uganda

It is with great indignation that we acknowledge the illegality of same sex relations in Uganda, with provisions in the Constitution and criminal laws penalizing same sex marriage and other acts referring to intimate relations between LGBTI persons. We understand that these provisions have been used by some officials to harass and persecute members of the LGBTI community. The growing homophobia as such has further fuelled the escalating attacks against LGBTI activists and greatly increased harassment against this community. The local media have also contributed to putting the lives of LGBTI activists and community members at risk by directly naming them in publications and contributing to prejudiced rhetoric. These actions are grossly unacceptable by the international community and are in serious conflict with the fundamental rights of human kind.

International Committee Report (continued)

In its letters to both the President of Uganda and the Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs, we, at the CCVT, mentioned about our front-line counselors who serve LGBTI people who have escaped to Canada from Africa, Latin America, Middle East, and Europe. We reiterated our strong conviction that the right to freedom of sexual orientation is an inseparable component of human rights. We are highly committed to the protection of sexual minorities. We have continued and will continue to provide our holistic services to them. It is only under religious fanaticism and tyranny that they have experienced torture both at the hands of government officials and at the community level.

Optional Protocol

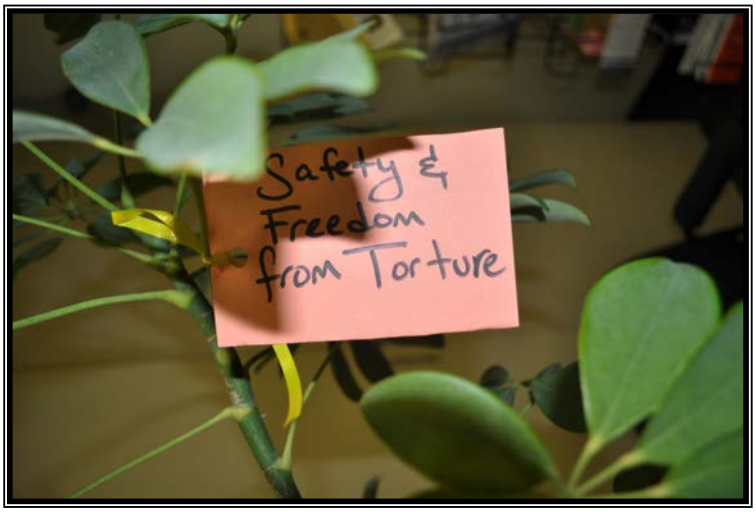
The International Committee continued to monitor developments regarding *An Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture*, dealing with the mandate of the UN Committee against Torture to enter and monitor conditions in places of detention. We will continue to urge the government of Canada for the ratification of the *Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment* (Optional Protocol or OPCAT). In December 2002, the United Nations adopted the OPCAT, an international instrument that stands to make an important contribution to preventing torture and ill-treatment worldwide. The OPCAT lays out a framework for regular national and international level inspections of detention centers, with a view to identifying and remedying the conditions that encourage and allow torture and ill-treatment to take place.

Canadian Centre for International Justice

During the past year, CCVT continued its collaboration with the Canadian Centre for International Justice (CCIJ). The mandate of CCIJ is to address the global problem of impunity and bringing torturers, war criminals and people who have committed crimes against humanity to justice in Canada.

Members

Chair: Susan McGrath
Members: Huda Bukhari, Mulugeta Abai and Chizuru Nobe
Staff Support: Ezat Mossallanejad and Teresa Dremetsikas



Note of hope left by a client at the celebrations of World Refugee Day

Health Committee Report

Health Committee

As per CCVT policy, the Health Committee has a mandate similar to many other committees of the Centre. The mandate and tasks of the Health Committee are:

- To develop and advise as needed in the implementation of guidelines for the assessment of clients and the provision of services.
- To collaborate with the Executive Director and other committees of the CCVT Board in fulfilling the mandate of the Centre.
- To collaborate with the Personnel Committee in staff development.
- To work with the Public Education Committee and the Volunteer Committee to promote public and professional education.

Last year was a busy and successful year for the Health Committee. The Committee met on a regular basis and based on arising needs. With the consultation of CCVT management, the Committee proposed ideas to promote services and to enhance the skills of the staff. Throughout the year, the Committee actively recruited more family physicians and psychiatrists to provide in-house services for CCVT clients. In addition, on behalf of CCVT, the Committee participated in different conferences at the national and international level to promote CCVT services and to attract more professionals to join the CCVT health network. The Health Committee has tirelessly explored more resources for CCVT clients and staff.

The Health Committee was able to identify free dental clinics and recruit volunteer physicians to provide free services and documentation. The Health Committee members enhance the skills/assessment of CCVT staff by providing training and case consultations.

To better serve CCVT clients and to enhance the skills of writing reports, the Health Committee members have organized and implemented two educational workshops for committee and health network members. One was conducted by Dr. Tanguay and his team from the forensic pathology department at Toronto General Hospital about the descriptions of scars and the second was on the relationship between head injuries and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), presented by Dr. Snaiderman, who is the head of the Toronto Rehab Center.

In collaboration with CCVT management, the Health Committee continues to partner with Mount Sinai Hospital to provide trauma training for CCVT staff.

Health Committee Report (continued)

Activities Undertaken

- Working on writing articles of CCVT work in academic medical journals.
- Identifying the need to conduct research on the uniqueness of CCVT services. There is a possibility that PGY3 at the psychiatric department will be able to conduct research on CCVT services provided by the in-house doctors.
- Working with CCVT management to conduct research on exploring the existing literature and research of PTSD.
- Providing health services at CCVT through Inner City Health funding. More clients have been accessing psychiatrists and medical doctors at CCVT through this funding. This kind of healthcare service improves the coping skills and emotional problems of clients, hence accelerating the process of rehabilitation and settlement.
- Providing training and case consultation for CCVT staff as an opportunity for the staff to enhance their assessment skills to better serve clients.
- Providing in-house services for CCVT clients by three family doctors. More clients who have no health coverage are able to benefit from these services. In the near future, the Health Committee will expand the primary health care services at CCVT.
- Giving advice to CCVT management in terms of healthcare services.
- To better serve clients, the Health Committee continues to contribute towards CCVT's strategic planning and enhancement of healthcare services provided for clients. The terms of references of the Committee have been reviewed and revised.

Implementing the following key activities:

- Organizing educational workshops for health network members and CCVT staff
- Participating in national and international health conferences
- Proving healthcare services at CCVT
- Finding more resources, such as free dental clinics for clients
- Recruiting more family physicians to join the CCVT Health Committee
- Conducting case consultation with CCVT staff
- Assisting CCVT staff to enhance their assessment skills
- Organizing joint meeting with the CCVT Legal Network
- Contributing to the launch of the CCVT Centre for Excellence

In addition to the above accomplishments, the Health Committee is:

- Working on writing articles about torture and trauma in academic journals;
- Conducting research on available literatures about torture; and
- Working on getting PGY3 in psychiatry to do more research about CCVT in-house healthcare service.

Members

Co-chairs: Dr. Marlinda Freire and Dr. Wendell Block
Members: Dr. Donald Payne, Dr. Rosemary Meier, Dr. Lisa Andermann, Dr. Clare Pain, Dr. Debra Stein, Dr. Tripler Pell and Dr. Julia Rackal
Staff Support: Teresa Dremetsikas, Mohamed Ahmed and Selamawit Yohannes

Board of Directors

Professor Susan McGrath
Associate Professor,
Faculty of Social Work, York University
Director of the Centre for Refugee Studies
Chair

Jasmine Artis
Manager, Employment Services
Operation Springboard
Vice Chair

Richard Wazana
Immigration Lawyer
Secretary *& Member of the*
CCVT Legal Committee

Blas Austria
Director of Finance at
Working Women Community Centre
Treasurer

Mohan Doss
HR Consultant
Member of the
CCVT Personnel Committee

Helen Gateri
Counselor, Women's Health
In Women's Hands
Member of the CCVT Health Committee

Gia Williams
Immigration Lawyer
Member of the CCVT Legal Committee

Regine King, PhD.
Co-Chair of the
CCVT Public Education Committee

Aberra Mekonnen
Executive Director, Oromo Canadian
Community Association of GTA
Member of the Personnel Committee

Dr. Tripler Pell
Consulting Physician @ CCVT
Member of the
CCVT Health Committee

Dr. Clare Pain
Psychiatrist, Mt. Sinai Hospital,
Associate Professor, Faculty of
Medicine, Department of Psychiatry
University of Toronto
Chair of the CCVT Health Committee

Michael Prokaziuk
Member of the
CCVT Fundraising Committee

Shannon Ryan
Executive Director, The Black Coalition
for AIDS Prevention
Chair of the
CCVT Volunteer Committee

Health Network Members

Psychiatrists, Psychologists

Dr. F. Allodi
Dr. L. Andermann
Dr. R. Berdichevsky
Dr. G. Devins
Dr. M. Freire
Dr. X. Fornazzari
Dr. M. Gholamain
Dr. O. Gozlan
Dr. S. A. Hassan
Dr. T. Lo
Dr. R. Meier
Dr. A. Munshi
Dr. C. Pain
Dr. D. Payne
Dr. J. Pilowsky
Dr. R. Ruskin
Dr. J. Santa Barbara
Dr. R. Stall
Dr. P. Stewart
Dr. D. Stein

Other Specialists

Dr. A. Banerji, Pediatrician
Dr. C. Degani, General Surgeon
Dr. S. Sliwin, Plastic Surgeon
Dr. M. Ryhanian, Dentist
Dr. P. Wade, Hearing Specialist

Family Doctors and General Practitioners

Dr. E. Alemayehoo
Dr. P. Berger
Dr. W. Black
Dr. J. Blakeney
Dr. W. Block
Dr. N. Degani
Dr. S. Gazeley
Dr. H. Getu
Dr. M. Goodman
Dr. D. Honickman
Dr. J. Irazusta
Dr. M. del Junco
Dr. T. Kiran
Dr. R. Klein
Dr. L. Mascarenhas
Dr. T. Pell
Dr. T. Pham
Dr. J. Rackal
Dr. M. Rashid
Dr. L. Richmond
Dr. K. Ruleau
Dr. A. Stern
Dr. J. Sugiyama
Dr. A. Vaezi
Dr. J. Weinstein
Dr. M. Wiebe

Health Working Group

Legal Network Members

Aida P. Abraha
Michael F.Battista
Robert Blanshay
Raoul Boulakia
Michael Brodzky
Andrew Brouwer
Larry Butkowsky
David Buzaglo
Michael Campell
Juan F. Carranza
Tollis Chan
Laurence Cohen
Susan deLint
Daniel. H. Dagago
Chantal Desloges
Esther Dressler
Marshall Drukarsh
Ralph Dzegniuk
Lorne A. Faratovitch
Joseph S. Farkas
Daniel M. Fine
Jeffrey Goldman
Evan Green
Mendel Green
Shoshana Green
Stephen Green
John Grice
Isak Grushka
John M. Guoba
Peter E. Haber
Kenneth N. Hagan
Marchand Hagan
Toba Hamersted
Marc Herman
Rita Hisar
Barbara Jackman
Ravi Jain
Anthony Kako
Catherine Kerr
El Farouk Khaki
Michael Korman
Mitchell E. Korman
Benjamin A. Kranc
Marianne P. Kroes
Peter J. Kroshak
Daniel Kwong
Douglas Lehrer
Cynthia Mancia
Harry Mann
Harvey S. Margel
Jack Martin
Lisa McCullough
Adam McIver
Kevin McTavish
Jegan N. Mohan
Melissa Melvin
Dr. Randal Montgomery
David Nakelsky
David Orman
Norris J. Ormston
Pamila B. Pohani
Joel Rosen
Lisa Rosenblatt
Roger Rowe
Geraldine Sadoway
Geary B. Shorser
Maureen Silcoff
Donald C.Simmons
Belva Spiel
William A. Sullivan
Leonard Susman
Byron J. M. Thomas
Helen Trentos
Helen Turner
Paul Vandervennen
Richard Wazana
Ian Wong
Patricia Wong
Rodney L. H. Woolf
Susan J. Woolner
Peter J. Wuebbol
David P. Yerzy

Legal Committee

Partnering, Collaborating & Referral Organizations

- Abaasarusi Missionary Church
- Access Alliance Multicultural Community Health Centre
- ACCESS Employment Centre
- Accessible Community Counseling and Employment Services
- Across Boundaries
- Adam's House
- Adelaide Resource Centre for Women
- Afghan Association of Ontario
- Afghan Women's Counseling & Integration Community Support Organization
- Afghan Women's Organization
- African Community Services of Peel
- Africans in Partnership Against Aids
- Albanian Community
- Albert Campbell Public Library
- Applegrove Community Centre
- Arab Community Centre of Toronto
- Auberge Francophone
- Barbara Schlifer Commemorative Clinic
- Berhan Semai-Pastor Onatan
- Bickford Centre - TDSB
- Birkdale Women's Shelter
- Bloor Information & Life Skills Centre
- Brampton African Community Services
- Canadian Arab Federation
- Canadian Centre for International Justice
- Canadian Council for Refugees
- Canadian Red Cross
- Canadian Tamil Youth Development Centre
- Canoraaa (Centre Francophones des jeunes de Toronto)
- CAS North York
- Casa de las Americas
- Catholic Community Services of York Region
- Catholic Cross Cultural Services
- Catholic Immigration Centre
- Cedrabrae Library
- Centre for Ethics
- Centre for Information & Community Services of Ontario
- Centre for Spanish Speaking Peoples
- Centre Francophone du Toronto Metropolitan
- Centre Medico-Social Communautaire
- Charity Village - COSTI Branch
- Chinese Family Services of Ontario
- Christie Refugee Welcome Centre
- City Adult Learning Centre (CALC)
- Community Microskills Development Centre
- Community Resources Connections of Toronto
- Cornwall & District Immigrant Service
- Corvette Family Resource Centre
- COSTI
- Council of Agencies Serving South Asian (CASSA)
- Covenant House
- CultureLink
- Davenport-Perth Neighbourhood Centre
- Dixie-Bloor Neighbourhood
- Downsview Family Health Centre
- Dr. Roz's Healing Place
- East End Community Health Centre
- East Metro Youth Service East Scarborough Boys and Girls Club
- East Scarborough Community Festival Market
- Eglinton - Kennedy Public Library
- Eritrea Canadian Association of Ontario
- Eritrean Canadian Community Centre of Metropolitan Toronto
- Ethiopian Association in Toronto
- Family Residence - Lido Motel
- Family Service Association in Scarborough
- FCJ Hamilton House Refugee Project
- Fife House Foundation
- Flemingdon Neighbourhood Services
- Frontline Youth Network
- Goodwill Employment Centre
- Hamilton Urban Core Community Health Centre
- Highbrook Learning Centre
- Hong Fook Mental Health Association
- Humber River Regional Hospital
- Inter-Cultural Neighbourhood Social Services
- International Charity Association Network (ICAN)
- Iranian Canadian Newcomer Association
- Islamic Community of Afghans in Canada
- Islamic Social Services & Resources Association
- Jane Alliance Neighbourhood Services
- Jewish Vocational Services
- Job Start (Formerly C.A.W.L)
- Jones Avenue School - TDSB
- JVS Toronto

Partnering Organizations (continued)

- Kensington Bellwood Community Legal Services
- LAMP Ask Community Health Centre
- Latino-Canadian Community Association of Scarborough
- Lawrence Heights Community Health Centre
- Le Regoupement des Femmes Immigrantes Francophone
- Legal Aid Ontario
- Madina Mosque
- Malton Neighbourhood
- Mathew House
- Maytree Foundation
- Mennonite New Life Centre of Toronto
- MIDAYNTA Association of Somali Service Agencies
- Mount Sinai Hospital
- Mujer
- Multi-Cultural Inter-Agency Group of Peel
- Neighbourhood Legal Services
- New Experiences for Refugee Women
- Newcomer Women's Services Toronto
- North American Muslim Foundation
- North York Community House
- OASIS Centre des Femmes
- Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants
- ODSP - Scarborough
- Omar Bin Khattab Mosque
- Ontario Works Offices
- ON-TRACK for Women
- Oromo Canadian Community Association of GTA
- Operation Springboard
- Parkdale Community Information Centre
- Parkdale Community Legal Services
- Policultural Immigrant Community Services
- Polycultural LINC Program
- Red Cross
- Regent Park Community Health Centre
- Reh'ma
- Rexdale Women's Centre
- Riverdale Immigrant Women's Centre
- Romero House
- Salahedin Islamic Centre
- San Lorenzo Latin American Community Centre
- Scarborough Community Residential Area
- Scarborough East Ontario Early Years Centre
- Scarborough Community Residential Area
- Scarborough Goodwill
- Scarborough Housing Help Centre
- Scarborough Village
- Second Base Youth Shelter
- Settlement and Integration Services Organization
- Shelton Institute for Mental Health
- Sick Kids Hospital
- Sistering
- Skills for Change
- Sojourn House
- Somali Canadian Association of Etobicoke
- Somali Immigrant Aid Organization
- Somaliland Canadian Society
- South Asian Family Support Services
- St. Christopher House
- St. James Town Library
- St. Joseph Immigrant Women's Centre
- St. Michael's Hospital
- St. Paul Trinity Church
- St. Stephen's Community House
- Storefront
- Sudanese Settlement Community
- Tamil Eelam Society of Canada
- Toronto District School Board (TDSB)
- Thorncliffe Neighbourhood Services
- Toronto Chinese Community Services Association
- Toronto Hostel Services Unit, Family Residence
- Toronto Public Health
- Tropicana Community Services Organization
- Vision Africana 2000
- War Child Canada
- Warden Woods Community Centre
- West Hill Community Services - Family Resource Centre
- West Scarborough Legal Services
- West Scarborough Neighbourhood Centre
- West Way Medical Clinic
- Women's College Women's Health in Women's Hands
- Woodgreen Community Centre of Toronto
- Working Skills Centre
- Working Women Community Centre
- YWCA of Greater Toronto
- YWCA Family & Social Services
- YMCA LINC Assessment Centre
- Yonge Street Mission
- Young Diplomats

CCVT Staff

Mulugeta Abai
Executive Director

Teresa Dremetsikas
Program Manager

Huda Bukhari
Manager, Settlement Program

Thilaga Jeganathan
Settlement Coordinator/ Trauma Counsellor
Scarborough

Ezat Mossallanejad
Policy Analyst/ Researcher/Settlement/ Trauma Counsellor

Abdurahman Abubakar
LINC/ESL Coordinator

****Angela Woodcock**
Manager, Volunteer Services

Ermelina Balla
LIP Program Manager

***Chizuru Nobe Ghelani**
Manager, Volunteer Services

Hanan Harb
LIP Community Development Officer

Rita Boateng
LIP Community Development Officer

Alison Mills
LIP Program Assistant

* Resigned
** End of Contract
*** Maternity Leave

CCVT Staff

Gabriela Agatiello
Settlement/Trauma Counsellor

*****Aislinn Clancy**
Settlement/Trauma Counsellor

Jackie Gakumba
Settlement/Trauma Counsellor

*****Mbalu Wembo**
Child & Youth Coordinator/ Counsellor
Scarborough

****Malini Pararajasingham**
Settlement/Trauma Counsellor
Scarborough

Michelle Emamnazar
Settlement/Trauma Counsellor
Scarborough

Mohamed Ahmed
Settlement/Trauma Counsellor

Christine Womiloju
Child & Youth Coordinator/ Counsellor
Scarborough

Rahel Gebregiorgis
Assistant Child/Youth Counsellor

Selamawit Yohannes
Settlement/Trauma Counsellor

****Sarah Al-Tekreeti**
Settlement/Trauma Counsellor

Sidonia Couto
Child & Youth Coordinator/ Counsellor

* Resigned
** End of Contract
*** Maternity Leave

CCVT Staff

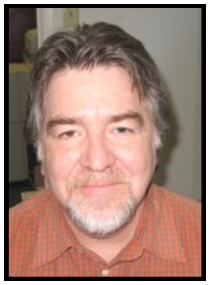
Delfina Vega de Paiz
Administrative Assistant/Office Coordinator

Elena Solokhina
Computer Instructor

Ferdinand Alvarez
Administrative Assistant/ A/R/A/P

Juliette Ntege
Volunteer Manager
Scarborough

Desiree Dumlao
Administrative Assistant
Scarborough



David Burt
LINC Instructor

Elizabeth Jones
ESL Instructor
Toronto Board of Education

Susanna Cluer
ESL Instructor
Toronto Board of Education

Inez Caldwell
LINC Instructor

***Tanya Mouland**
LINC Supply Instructor

****Terri Iwaskow**
LINC Instructor

***Catherine Raine**
LINC Instructor

* Resigned
** End of Contract
*** Maternity Leave

CCVT Clinical Service
April 2010 - March 2011

A total of 209 clients were seen by attending clinicians at CCVT.

Adult		Senior		Youth/Child		Total		Families
Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	
96	82	4	8	6	13	106	103	8

Services provided include:

⇒ Psychiatric Assessments/Treatment: 177

⇒ Family Doctor Assessments/Referrals for Treatment: 32

⇒ Documentation (ODSP forms, Support letters for housing or other): 166

Age/Gender Category

As the table above indicates, there were 106 female and 103 male. 19 of these were children/youth, 12 seniors and 178 were adults. Out of the 209 clients, 8 were families.

Outcome:

Considering the difficulty to obtain psychiatric appointments, the numbers reflect a successful outcome in terms of access for a marginalized group particularly those that have experienced torture and war.

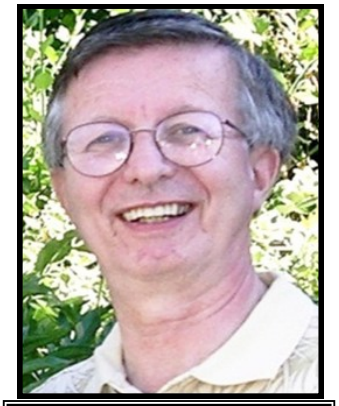
Having access to a mental health physician or family doctor prevents crisis and deterioration of mental health.

CCVT Health/Mental Health Committee

Dr. Clare Pain
Psychiatrist

Dr. Marlinda Freire
Psychiatrist

Dr. Rosemary Meier
Psychiatrist



Dr. Donald Payne
Psychiatrist

Dr. Lisa Andermann
Psychiatrist

Dr. Debra Stein
Psychiatrist

Dr. Wendell Block
Family Doctor

Dr. Tripler Pell
Family Doctor

Figure 1. CCVT Survivors

Total Clients: 2272; Countries: 79; Female: 1168; Male: 703; LGBTQ: 44; Children/Youth: 357

CCVT SURVIVORS							
Country	Adult			Child/Youth			Total
	F	M	LGBTQ	F	M	LGBTQ	
Afghanistan	34	44		12	12		102
Albania	6	6					12
Angola	3	2			2		7
Azerbaijan	2						2
Bangladesh	18	5		1	2		26
Barbados	1		1				2
Belarus	1						1
Botswana	2					1	3
Burundi	7	3		1		1	12
Cambodia		1					1
Cameroon	8	5			1		14
Canada	3	2					5
Chad		1					1
Chile	2						2
China	1	1					2
Colombia	54	23		6	4	1	88
Congo DE	23	4			6		33
Costa Rica		1					1
Cote D'Ivoire	1						1
Cuba	1	2					3
Czech Rep				1			1
Djibouti	1	1					2
Ecuador	1	1					2
Egypt					3		3
El Salvador	5	5					10
Equatorial Guinea	1	3					4
Eritrea	220	126		19	23		388
Ethiopia	201	99		26	14		340
Gambia		1					1
Grenada	1	1					2
Guatemala	9	3					12
Guyana	4				1		5
Haiti	29	17		11	6		63
Honduras	7	1					8
Hungary	5	4		1	1		11

CCVT SURVIVORS (cont'd)							
India	8	2					10
Iran	63	38		2	7		110
Iraq	64	58		27	30		179
Israel	2				2		4
Ivory Coast	1						1
Jamaica	12	3	8	5	1	2	31
Jordan		2					2
Kenya	9	2			4		15
Kosovo	4			1			5
Lebanon	2	2					4
Liberia	2	6			2		10
Maruitius	1						1
Mauritenia					2		2
Mexico	52	34	2	1	1		90
Morocco	1	1					2
Namibia	1		1	1	1	1	5
Nepal	5	2			1		8
Nicaragua	3	2					5
Nigeria	35	29	5	6	5	2	82
North Korea				1			1
Oman					1		1
Pakistan	3	3		2	4		12
Palestine	4	5		1	4		14
Peru	1	2					3
Poland	1						1
Russia	1	3			2		6
Rwanda	6	2		1			9
Sierra Leone	5						5
Somalia	26	9		4		1	40
Sri Lanka	162	99	2	17	20		300
St. Lucia	10	5	3	7	7	1	33
St. Vincent	6	1	8	5	2		22
Sudan	3	8		10	3		24
Swaziland	1	1					2
Syria	1	3		4	2		10
Tanzania	1	2		1			4
Turkey	3	3		1			7
Turkmenistan		1					1
Uganda	7	7		1	1	1	17
United States	1						1
Venezuela	6	5	2		1	1	15
Vietnam	1	1					2
Yemen				2			2
Zimbabwe	3				1		4
TOTAL	**1168**	**703**	**32**	**178**	**179**	**12**	**2272**

Client Statistics

Figure 2. Referral Sources

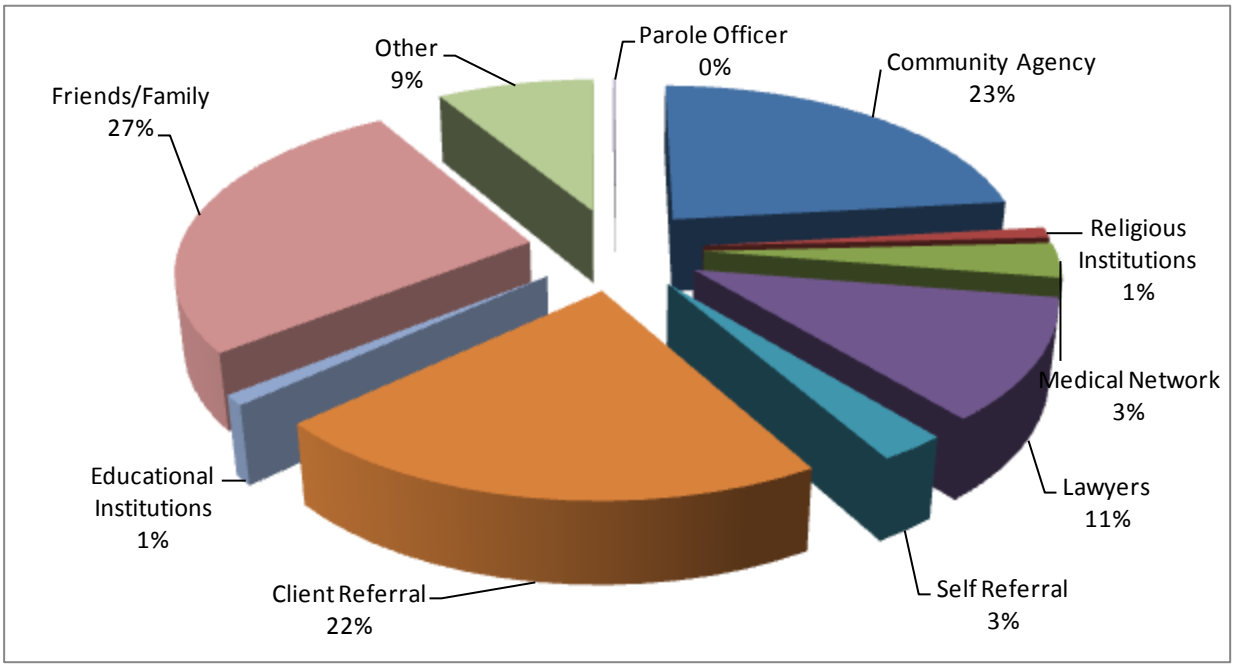
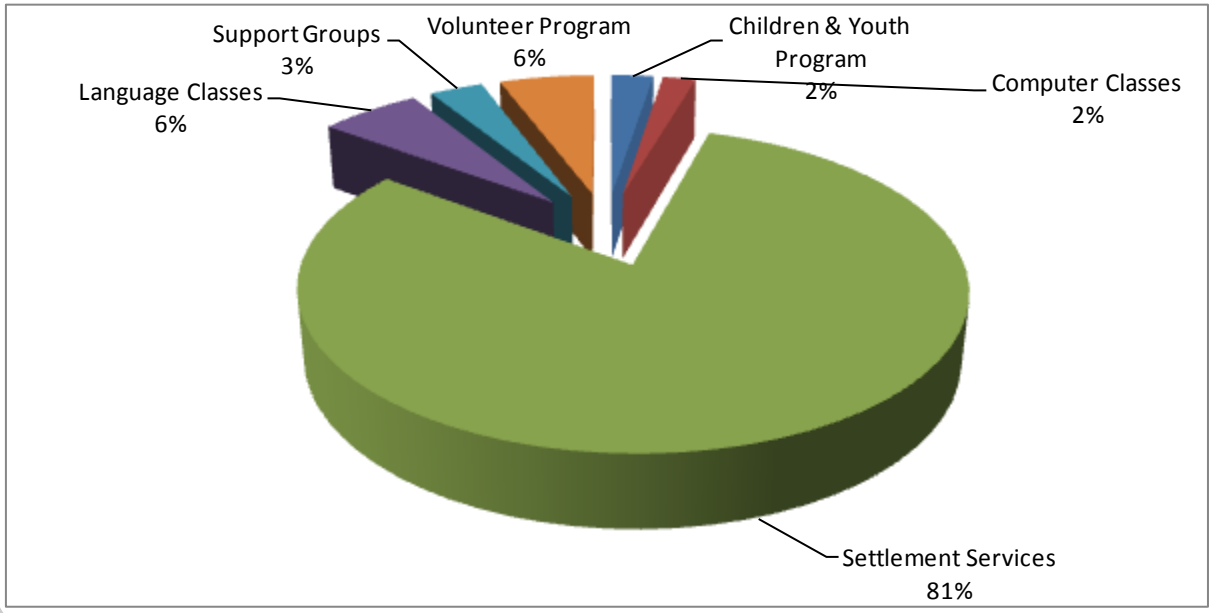


Figure 3. Internal Referrals



Client Statistics (continued)

Figure 4. Age

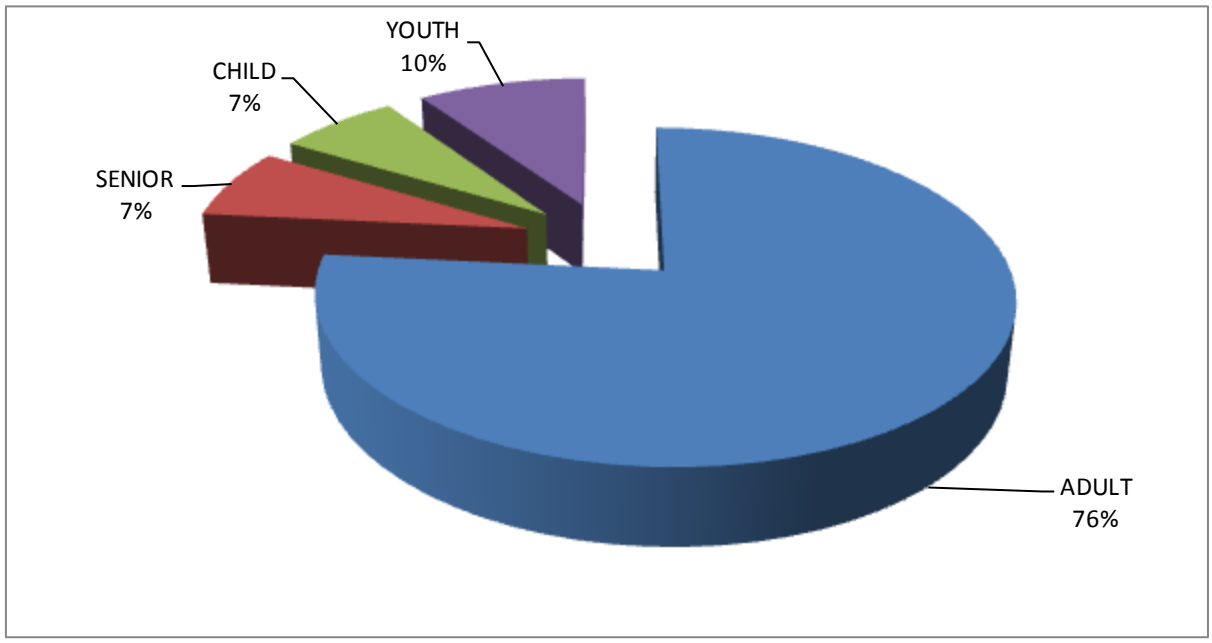
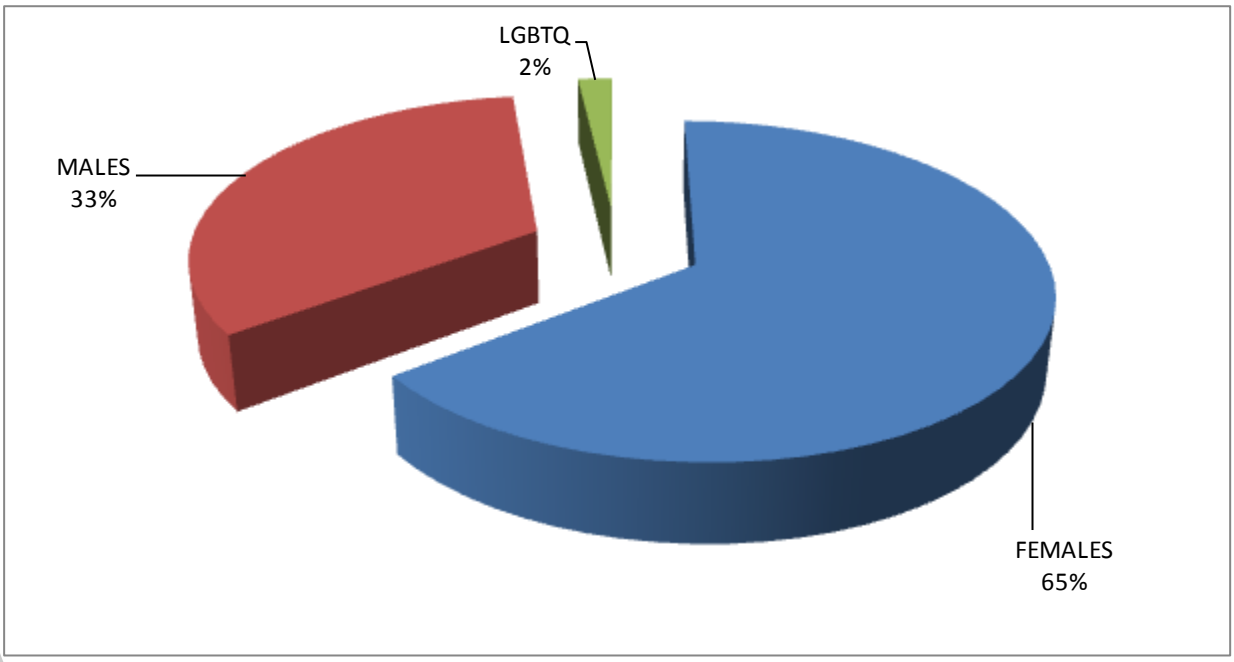


Figure 5. Gender



Client Statistics (continued)

Figure 6. Marital Status

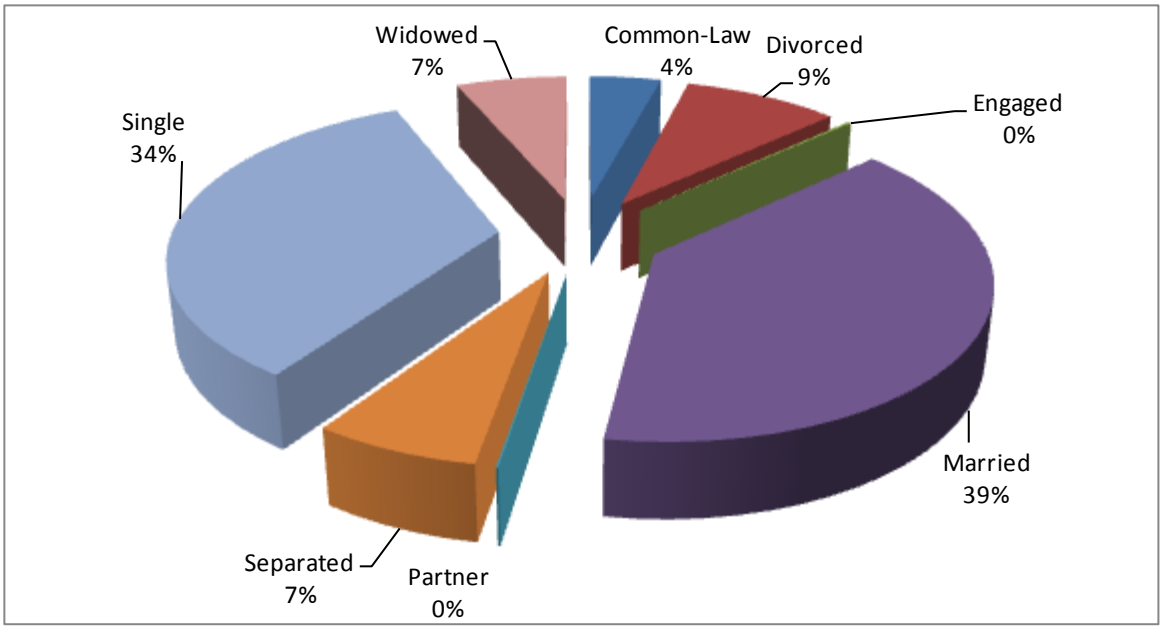
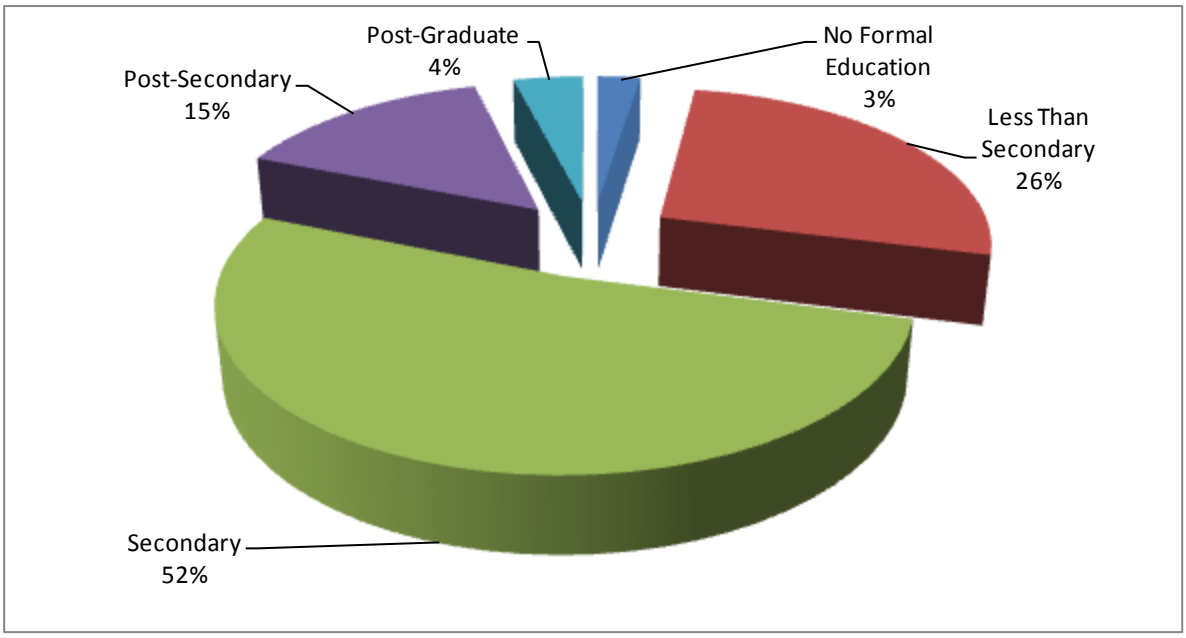


Figure 7. Client Education



Individual Donors

Richard M., Addinall
Patricia Agius
Jehad Aliweiwi
Douglas Alton
Stephen Ante
Carolyn Archibald
Jasmine Artis
Blas Austria
Florian Bail
Lorraine Ballard
Steel Barrett
Guy J. Barton
Nancy Bassis
Susan M. Beattie
Raul Berdichevsky
Brenda Berek
Philip Berger
Jill E. Blakeney
Donna Bobier
Majid Boozary
Tony Boston
Raoul Boulakia
Norman J. Brown
Georgina M. Brunette
Charles & Marguerite Bryant
John & Mrs Barbara Buttars
John C. Cairns
Jessica M. Choo
Paul Copeland
Michael & Lee Creal
Elizabeth M. Creal
William J. Cuthbert
Carole S. Dahan
T. H. Davies
Rosemund R. Delap
Rufus Dickinson
Mohan Doss
Debbie Douglas
Suzanne Dudziak
Judith Dueck
Dale V. Edwards
R.M. Farewell
John Faustmann
Lois Fleming
John Fraser
Marlinda Freire
Naomi Fromstein
Helen Geagan
Gail Geltner
Usha George
Gary Getson
Haregua Getu
Shachin Ghelani
Angela Goyeau
Anna E Graham-Cumming
R. David Hamilton
Mara Herscovitch
Verna Higgins
Laurence & Miranda Hiu
Johanna Householder
Barbara Jackman
Michael J Jackson
Thirumagal Priya Jeganathan
Frederick Jonker
Kumail Karimjee
Kyle D. Killian Kingston
Martin Klein
Alkis Kontos
Michel R. Labbé
Vincent H.C. Lam
James & Mrs. Ann Ledwich
Caterina Lindman
Ted Lo
Cecil A. Louis
Anna Luengo
Mary Rose MacDonald
Hilary A MacKenzie
Catharine MacKenzie
Paul MacKey
Eli Malinsky
Pamela McCallum
Judith McCormack
Susan McGrath
Peter Meier
Monique Meloche
Nancy Meyer
Paul Michaud
Anne E. Mills
Britt Mollerstedt
Dave & Joy Morris
Hadayat Nazami
Charles R. Neill
Margaret G. Norman
John O'Grady
E.M. Orsten
John R. V. Palmer
Soheila Pashang
Donald Payne
Tripler Pell
Mary Anne Peters
Sarah Polley
Elinor Powell
Doug & Jane Pritchard
Nicholas Pyl
Hans F Reichenfeld
Margaret Reid
George Renninger
Franklin T & Milli Richmond
Shirley A. Roberts
Charles & Karen Rosenberg
Wendy B. Rothwell
Thora Wade Rowe
Stuart Rowles
Catharine Saxberg
Rachelle Sender
Harry S Shannon
John M. Sherlock
Joan Simalchik
Gurbir Singh
Elaine Slater
Helen Smith
Vicky Stergiopoulos
William A. Sullivan
Stanley Taman
Barbara Thomas
Katharine Mary Thompson
Claire Trevena
Marie Truelove
Paul VanderVennen
Mary Veltri
Richard Vernon
Marguerite Wales
Richard Walsh-Bowers
George Webster
Martha Whelton
Eleanor Wilson
Leib & Sheila Wolofsky
Eric R Young
Andrew Zarebski
Milton Zarebski
Rick Zytaruk

MONTHLY DONORS

E. Vivien Abbott
Howard B. Abrams
Martin S Alford
Helen Szewello Allen
Jeanette R Amdur
David Armstrong
Heather Barclay
Margie Bateman
Morton Beiser
Deborah Birkett
Wendel Block
John Blum
Margaret Boyce
Isabelle Bradbury
Elizabeth Briemberg
Rachel C Brown
Barbara Browne
Grace T Burke
Bruce E Burton
Marco Campana
J Douglas Campbell
Ellen K. Campbell
Brenda Cardillo
June Caskey
Yvonne Chmielewski
William Clarke
Dave Collacutt
Geraldine Connelly
Heather Cooper
Debby Copes
S Laurie Curtis
Andrey V. Cybulsky
B.A. Daughtry
Andrew & Suzanna Daviel
Hans B De Groot
Derek de Sa
Mark Brett & Kathleen Denomy
John B Dillon
Marie Dunn
Diana Dyson
Douglas Eggins
Guy Ewing
Margaret W. Feenstra
Renée Ferguson
Helke Ferrie
Peter Busby & Dr. KA
Kathleen Gelmon
Dorothy Marie Glover
Philip Gold
Catherine Graham
Carol Graham
David & Frieda Gramit
Barbara Grisdale
Douglas Gruner
Keith Halfyard
Sarah Hamdi
Ann Harrington
Rhoda E Hassmann
Douglas Hay
Frances Hay
Lorne Heffelfinger
E. Gilmour
Mary Heiberg
James Ironside
Carol Jamieson
Grace Kaattari
Angela King

Individual Donors (continued)

Volunteer Appreciation Day

DONORS

Margaret Knittl
Joy S. Korman
Harimarine Lalla
James R. Lane
Kenneth R. Langdon
Rose Lee
Douglas Lehrer
Carolyn Lemon
Maureen Lennon
Marilyn Lightstone
Barbara Lyon
Mary I. Macrae
Karen Mahoney
Lynda Maki
Alexander Malycky
Pauline Mazumdar
Jean McClure
Carolyn J McGhee
Edward A. McGivern
Marilyn J. McKim
Catherine McNairn
Rosemary Meier
Michele Millard
Thomas Morris
Raymond and Anne Morris
Helen Nation
Tania Natscheff
Christine Nelson
Marina Nemat
Michael Nevin
Michele O'Keefe
Sheila O'Reilly
Robin Pacific
Erma L Parker
Bill Parsons
Joyce Potter
Lisa S. Price
Jaak Reichmann
Kevin Reinhardt
Paul H Reinhardt

Campus Logix
Centre for Addition and Mental Health (CAMH)
ChumCity Christmas Wish
Congregation de Notre Dame
Culturelink Settlement Services of Metropolitan Toronto
CUPE Local 2316
Georgian Bay Secondary School
O.C.A.S.I.
Oasis Women Centre
Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation
Ossington/Old Orchard, P.S.
PAS Accounting Services
Psychiatry Associate/M.S.H.
Rennick, Hoppe & Associates
Ryerson University
Skills for Change of Metro Toronto
The William Rathbone Family Charitable Trust
Toronto Court Reporters
United Way Centraide
United Way of York Region
Wardens of St. Thomas' Anglican Church
Women's Health in Women's Hands

Thank you!

CCVT Volunteers

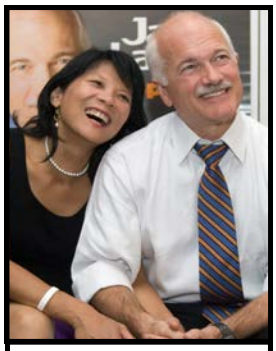
Aakanchie Mahajan
Abiola Sodiyan
Adam Diamond
Adriana Wilson
Alberto Munoz
Alex Mendiola
Ali Jafri
Alla Kalaida
Allan Webster
Amir Benaissa
Amitaben Patel
Anahita Hemmati
Andrea De Leon
Andrea Dzamarija
Andrea Macdonald
Angela Kalivitis
Anju Nair
Ann Davidson
Anna Chen
Anna Lim
Anne Cassidy
Arabhi Nirmalan-Nathan
Arany Thiru
Armi De Francia
Arun Kumar Jayakumar
Ashagre Zerihun
Aysha Marzouk
Botho Ramanteba
Caitlin Newberry
Camille Dumond
Camira Walters
Carol Ward
Caroline Jatmiko
Carrie Kawahatsu
Charlotte Elo
Chizuru Ghelani
Chris Platt
Christina Rettig
Christopher Yarnell
Cinthia Ferreira
Claire Larson
Claudia Jeyagnanam
Colleen Bloomfield
Danika King
Dave Borrelli
Delaram Karkheiran
Khoozani
Demetra Gourmos
Denise Macabanti
Dharshika Watson
Dilli Ram Lohar
Donna Nicoloff
Earvin Tomines
Edil Mohamed
Elia Tecozautla
Euna Son
Ewa Kozakiewicz
Fathiya Abdirizak
Fuad Chowdhury
Gabriela Manrique
Gabriela Osorio
Gajany Sivalingam
Gaurav Khanna
Ghazal Bina
Grace Choi
Grace Willis
Gurvinder Singh
Haider Mirza
Halda Knapp
Hawa Tarin
Helen Galligan
Herde Borgou
Hodo Ahmed
I-Chun Ho
Ihshan Gumilar
Inna Uretzki
Iqura Tarannum
Isabel Araneda
Iskandar Gadirzade
Jabbar Karnawi
Jane Kwon
Jasintha Kangatharan
Jasintha Kunasegaram
Jaskiran Sahota
Jayda Bubeloff
Jellina Sauco
Jennifer Knoll
Jennifer Lemanski
Jennifer Mack
Jerry Carson
Jessica Lintlop
Jeyakumar Perampalam
Jing Liang
Jing Zhang
Joelle Warrilow
Jonathan Ndururutse
Jonathan Yazer
Josh Tobe
Joy Garmaise
Julia Johnson
Julia Porter
Kareem El-Assal
Karen Hill
Kate Heximer
Kathryn Teeluck
Katy Smali
Kenesha Haughton
Kevin Munn
Khozema Mansure
Kizzy Roy
Kleitja Beu
Kristen McCannon
Kugananthy Gnanaharan
Laura Ajayi
Lauren Spring
Leighton Brown
Leonard Swartz
Lidija Poff
Linda Bronfman
Lora Malile
Loretta Loon
Louise Eastman
Mandekh Hussein
Manijeh Nouri
Maria Amalia Averion
Maria Paulo-Magan
Marianne Noh
Maricela Villalta
Marietta Bastianpillai
Marta Marine-Domine
Maxine Bond
Maxwell Dismukes
Megha Suri
Michael Donnelly
Michelle Dadachanji
Mike Cheatley
Miranda McKie
Mohammed Ali
Mohanarel Kharel
Monica Encinas
Monika Siecinski
Monica Reilly
Nadeesh Jayasinghe
Nadia Latifi
Nadiejda Santos
Nadiejda Victor dos Santos
Naomi Loeb
Nathalie Sheppard
Navin Kumar Ghimire
Navneet Marwaha
Nazila Dilimulati
Neelufer Rahimi
Negar Jafaari
Nelufer Jalil
Neusa Saldanha
Neveen Danial
Nhooph Alareebi
Nishayel Williams
Nuha Filfilan
Ophilia Xavier
Palwasha Wajdi
Paola Fanutti
Paola Pavez
Paulina Wyrzykowski
Pelin Gul
Peter Elliott
Rachel Lobel
Raj Krishnan
Ramesh Kumar Prasai
Raquel Sapnu
Rauel Shaulov
Renato Agostini
Rida Iqbal
Rosa Abelin
Ruslana Sikorska
Sahra Togone
Sal Youssef
Sam Michaels
Samantha Mihalj
Samantha Panchoo
Sameera Fathima
Samrawit Nigussie Gudeta
Sanchayan Sivanathan
Sandy Jones
Sarah Abdi
Sarah Colley
Sarah Cooper
Sarah Molyneaux
Sarisha Moodley
Savanna Scott-Leslie
Scott Christian
Sebastien Parkhill-Goyette
Serene Hadj-Hammou
Seyed Alireza Hesamiboushehri
Shahin Yamin
Shahrzad Taghavian
Shaista Khan
Shannon Lyon
Sharlene Bourjot
Sharon Chakkalackal
Simon Adam
Stacey Bowen
Steel Barrett
Steven Theobald
Sunain Mannan
Sutha Ganesh
Syeda Arafa Sulaiman
Tahereh Payrovi
Taiba Ali
Tanveer Timur
Tara Silver
Tendisai Cromwell
Teresa eee
Thulasi Manoharalingam
Toni Francis
Trizah Wanjiru
Udi Blankstein
Vanessa Herce
Vashti Persaud
Veronica McNamee
Victoria McCaffrey
Vinoyi Cheriyan
Violeta Martinez
Warren Ross
Whitehead Csilla
Wiyanna Trevis
Yasir Alobaidi
Yasmin Sallay
Yiwen Liu
Yoana Kalinova
Yves Miller
Zainab Ansari
Zenawit Birhany
Zheng Wang
Zinat Faroqi

Our Supporters

A Taste of Quebec
Abbott Pub
Art Gallery of Ontario
Body Blitz
Corktown Designs
Dell Canada
Elmwood Spa
Fairmountbooks.com
FLIP Publicity & Promotions Inc.
Fourth Pig
Go Shani
Gourmet Galaxy
Green Zebra
Jazz.FM91
Lululemon Athletica
Maple Lodge Farms
Mount Sinai Hospital
NOW Magazine
One King West Hotel
PIKTO
Research in Motion
RKW Wine Imports
Rosedale Wellness Centre
Segway Ontario
SOMA Chocolatemaker
Soulpepper Theatre
Sweet Birch Traditional Medicine
The Cranial Therapy Centre
The Rusty Fairmount Group
Toronto Raptors
True Source Seminars
YMCA

Special Thanks to Our Patrons

Sarah Polley



Olivia Chow & the late Jack Layton

Jian Ghomeshi

Source of Funds: Government and Foundations

Citizenship and Immigration Canada

- Immigration Settlement and Adaptation Program — ISAP – A
- Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada — LINC
- Local Immigration Partnership — LIP

Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration

- Newcomer Settlement Program (NSP)

Ontario Trillium Foundation
United Way of Greater Toronto
United Nations Voluntary Fund for Torture Victims
Toronto District Board of Education

City of Toronto

- Community Services Grant

Donors - Organizations

Alterna Savings
United Way of Calgary, Donors Choice Program
The Sisters of St. Joseph of the Diocese of London
Green & Spiegel
Chum City Christmas Wish
Wardens of St. Thomas' Anglican Church
The William Rathbone Family Charitable Trust
Harry Rosen Inc.
Beaches Presbyterian Church
Organization of Professional Immigration Consultants

Contact Us

Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture

Main Office:

194 Jarvis St., 2nd Floor
Toronto, ON
M5B 2B7

Tel: (416) 363-1066
Fax: (416) 363-2122

Scarborough Branch:

2425 Eglinton Ave. E.,
Unit 220
Scarborough, ON
M1K 5G8

Tel: (416) 750-3045
Fax: (416) 750-4990

CCVT at The HUB:

1527 Victoria Park
2nd Floor
Scarborough, ON
M1L 2T3

Tel: (647) 847-2336
Fax: (416) 750-9200

Email: mabai@ccvt.org
Website: www.ccvt.org

Plaque marking tree planted on occasion of the June 26, 2010 Celebration for survivors of Torture

Former Award Recipients

The Amina Malko Award Recipients

Geraldine Sadoway
2002

Consuelo Rubio
2003

Madina Wasuge
2004

Dr. Jill Blakeney
2005

Sister Lois
2006

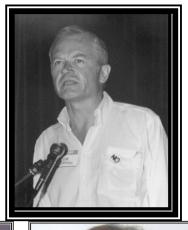
Joan Simalchik
2007

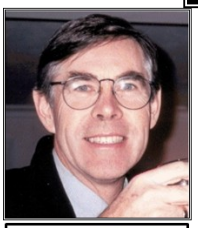
Paola Gomez
2008

Debbie Douglas
2009

Dr. Rosemary Meier
2010

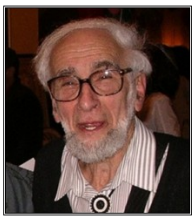
The Trevor Bartram Award Recipients





Tom Clark
2002

Miranda Pinto
2003

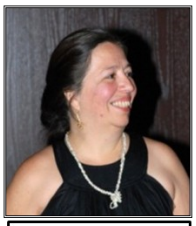


Fred Franklyn
2004

Dr. Raul Berdichevsky
2005

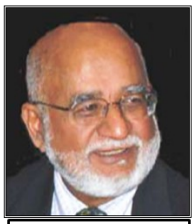
Dr. Wendell Block
2006

Douglas Leher
2007



Loly Rico
2008

Dr. Donald Payne
2009



Hari Lalla
2010

"The CCVT gives hope after the horror."