



PROGRAM FOR TORTURE VICTIMS
3655 S. Grand Ave., Suite 290
Los Angeles, CA 90007

Volunteer Opportunities

As the oldest torture treatment center in the United States, the mission of Program for Torture Victims (PTV) is to alleviate the suffering and health consequences of state-sponsored torture by providing medical, psychological, and case-management services to survivors from all over the globe.

Interpreter/Translator:

About 50% of our clients need interpreters when they receive services. Although we have staff members who speak French, Spanish, and English, our clients are from all over the world. They speak a wide range of languages and many need interpreters. Volunteer interpreters assist the clinical staff by translating documents and interpreting for our clients.

Volunteer interpreters and translators must be fluent in both English and another language, such as Farsi, Armenian, Arabic, Russian, Mongolian, Urdu, Mandarin, Cantonese, etc. They must also be able to interpret medical language. Interpreters are called on an “as-needed” basis.

English Tutor:

English is not the native language of the vast majority of PTV’s clients. English tutors meet with clients one-on-one and help improve their English skills. Tutors enable PTV’s clients to feel more comfortable using English, which is especially important for clients when they are in search of employment. Volunteer English tutors must be patient and enthusiastic about working with clients from another country.

Career Advisor:

Clients face a variety of issues related to their immersion in American culture. Career Advisors give clients an opportunity to learn and practice professional interview skills, resume writing and job searching techniques. As a professional, we welcome your input and assistance to help our clients individually. PTV has a computer available for clients to use for creating documents and using the internet.

Web Designer:

This position includes template design for PTV’s E-Newsletter, website upkeep, event invitation design, and more. We would prefer someone with experience in this field. This is a good opportunity for someone who would prefer to work on the administrative side of PTV, rather than directly with clients.

Healing Club Coordinator:

The Healing Club is a gathering of the PTV community. Clients, staff, their friends and family all come together in a social gathering to celebrate, learn, and have fun. Some of the activities we have previously coordinated include international dance lessons, yoga,

and a picnic in the park with musicians. We would like to expand the Healing Club to include activities such as museum visits, a day at the beach, cooking, arts and crafts, and other fun activities throughout Los Angeles. We need volunteers to help plan, coordinate, transport, and inform our clients and the community about the Healing Club.

There are multiple ways to get involved as a Healing Club Coordinator:

1. Activity Leader: Volunteers can lend their skills to PTV by leading the activity for one Healing Club. Possible activities may include art or dance lessons, or leading a hike or trip to a museum. These are only a few examples; any talents a volunteer wishes to share with the PTV community will be considered.
2. Set-up and Materials: Volunteers are always invited to the healing club events and often arrive early to help set up tables and chairs, or contribute food items, or even help with clean-up after the event is finished.