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Title of Presentation:

A multiprofessionell psycho-social Treatment Programme for Survivors of Torture and War-traumatized Refugees

Abstract:

The Berlin Treatment Center for Torture Victims was founded in 1992. Grown into a remarkable nationally and internationally operating NGO, the center is focusing on the treatment and rehabilitation of refugees from conflict-affected areas all over the world who are suffering from severe traumarelated symptoms such as posttraumatic disorders, depression or elevated levels of anxiety.

Our focus lies on the interdisciplinary treatment of traumatized refugees (adults and children), involving individual psychotherapeutical interventions, social work and psychopharmacotherapy if necessary. In addition we are offering a range of group therapies with psychoeducation, body-work and creative methods.

We are providing general social support in the difficult situation after migration as well as assistance in the asylum procedure of our clients by writing medical and psychological reports including the documentation of physical traces of torture based on the Istanbul-Protocol.

An important component of our work is the close cooperation with specially trained translators. For the very severely ill clients we are able to offer treatment in our day clinic as well as in a therapeutic housing-project for women. A counseling service as well as a school offering language and professionalizing courses allows us to support the intergration of our clients into the society in exile at different levels of needs.

We are an active member of the national and international network and engage in the advocacy and prevention of human rights violations as well as the training of colleagues in the national and international field. Our work is monitored and evaluated by our own research department.