

Saturday, November 3, 2012

Dear Friends and Supporters of PTV:

As you now know, Julie Gutman, our Executive Director for the past two and a half years, will be stepping down at the end of December. While we are sad to see Julie leave our staff, I am happy to say that she has agreed to join the Board of Directors in January where she will continue to contribute to PTV.

Transitions can be difficult, but as we begin the search for a new Executive Director, we are confident that our current transition will be a smooth one for several reasons. When Julie became Executive Director in early 2010, her primary directives from the Board were to increase PTV's visibility and diversify and expand our revenue. She has had tremendous success in not only putting PTV prominently on the map, but in increasing revenue from foundations and raising more general funds over the past two years from private donors than PTV cumulatively raised over the previous ten-year period. A key reason is the success of our annual Human Dignity Awards Dinner, launched by Julie in 2011.

The growth in fundraising is important for two reasons. First it has allowed us to add vital staff and services. Just last month, we brought on a part-time physician, and we will soon be providing clients with access to dental care for the first time in PTV's history. And second, diversifying and expanding the sources of financial support are important to our financial health by making us less dependent on a single source of funding. PTV has for many years received vital funds from the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement. Over the past ten years, the federal ORR grant (averaging \$475,000 each year) has accounted for approximately 65% to 80% of our funding in any given year. However, under Julie's leadership we will likely close out the current fiscal year with the federal ORR grant accounting for just under 50% of our annual budget. This is an important achievement. On top of this success, PTV was just awarded a new three-year grant from ORR in the amount of \$1.35 million.

With a more diverse and robust fundraising infrastructure and the addition of critical staff, PTV is in a stronger position today than when Julie came onboard in 2010. We are grateful to her for everything she has done and thrilled that she will stay on as a Board member.

Today we officially begin the search for a new Executive Director. And while we will be advertising the position, if you know anyone who may be a great candidate, please encourage them to apply. The position description and application procedure are available on our website at www.ptvla.org.

Thank you for your past and ongoing support of PTV. Working together we will continue to fulfill our mission of rebuilding the lives of torture survivors.

Niels W. Frenzen
PTV Board President

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