Reflections on Trip to Alabama
by Mark Clements

Students, educators, torture survivors, and staff with the Chicago Torture Justice Center travelled to Birmingham and Montgomery Alabama during the month of October to walk the footsteps of those in the civil rights movement, including visiting the National Memorial for Peace and Justice, as a part of a trip organized by Alice Kim for the Institute on Memory and Human Rights.

The trip was educational, helping those that attended to learn of their history and what happened when 4 young black girls were fire bombed and killed inside a church, visiting the Lynching Museum, meeting with a juvenile lifer who was released from the State of Arkansas and who is starring in a movie based on kids being sent to prison with a natural life sentence. The group visited the Rosa Parks Museum and an exhibit on mass incarceration, which just opened the week of their visit.

All who attended said that this was a once in a lifetime experience. All people should be able to learn this history and still much is needed to overcome Jim Crow and slavery within our criminal justice system. The groups left with an impactful impression on how to best assist people in the state of Illinois who are incarcerated and what is yet needed to defeat slavery.

Why be a Monthly Sustainer?
by, Troy Harden, CTJC Board President

"A Value that is important to me is justice."

A value that is important to me is justice. It is my belief when the institutions designed to uphold justice fail, the social fabric of our society crumbles. Nowhere has this institutional failure been greater in recent times than the brutality committed by Chicago Police Commander Jon Burge and his fellow officers. This is both mirror and symbol for the many others who are impacted yearly by police and state-sponsored violence. This is why I am a monthly donor to the Chicago Torture Justice Center. We need an institution that is able to provide healing justice and advocates on behalf of our most vulnerable.

To ensure the sustainability of a lived justice in our city and beyond, it is my hope that you will join me as a monthly donor. (bit.ly/DonatetoCTJC)

"To ensure a lived justice in our City..."
UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, October 7th
Open Case Management Hours
1pm to 5pm at CTJC (open to anyone impacted by police violence)

Tuesday, October 8th
Cranio-Sacral Therapy (by appointment only)
1pm to 4pm at CTJC (email cindy@chicagotorturejustice.org or call 773-962-0395 to schedule an appointment)

Saturday, October 12th
RISE Community Meeting
10am to 12pm at CTJC (open to community members)

Saturday, October 12th
Ronnie Man 5 Year Angel Day
Check justicefornonnienman.com for more info on time and location

Monday, October 14th
Open Case Management Hours
1pm to 5pm at CTJC (open to anyone impacted by police violence)

Tuesday, October 15th
Freedom Songbook Program, Launch of 8 week program
6pm to 8pm at CTJC (open to everyone. RSVP to Aislinn at aislinn@chicagotorturejustice.org or 773-962-0395)

Wednesday, October 16th
Illinois Torture and Inquiry Relief Commission Hearing
2pm to 4pm, location TBD (check www.illinois.gov/tirc for location)

Monday, October 21st
Open Case Management Hours
1pm to 5pm at CTJC (open to anyone impacted by police violence)

Tuesday, October 22nd
Freedom Songbook Program, Round Two
6pm to 8pm at CTJC (open to everyone. RSVP to Aislinn at aislinn@chicagotorturejustice.org or 773-962-0395)

Monday, October 28th
Open Case Management Hours
1pm to 5pm at CTJC (open to anyone impacted by police violence)

Tuesday, October 29th
Freedom Songbook Program
6pm to 8pm at CTJC (open to everyone. RSVP to Aislinn at aislinn@chicagotorturejustice.org or 773-962-0395)

From Carl Williams:

"What we seek is seeking us."

"Today as I wake up I am thankful. I see in the darkness because of the light in my eyes. As I continue my fight today, I remember justice is truth in action. But I also remember my brothers and sisters who are fighting with me in our innocence to come home. This system is designed to attack our humanity. Keep your voice loud and continue to be a teller of our stories. Because what we seek is seeking us. Innocence. Freedom. Stay rooted in our fight."

"Stay rooted in our fight."

If you have words, stories and arts you want to share from behind the prison walls, please write to us at:

Chicago Torture Justice Center,
641 W. 63rd St. Chicago, IL 60621.