

## **S. Megan Berthold, PhD, LCSW**

Dr. Megan Berthold is an Associate Professor and Director of Field Education at the University of Connecticut's (UConn) School of Social Work where she is also active with the UConn Human Rights Institute. She has worked as a clinician and researcher with diverse refugee and asylum-seeking survivors of torture, war traumas, human trafficking, domestic violence, child abuse, and other traumas since 1987.

Dr. Berthold was a clinician and educator in refugee camps in Nepal, the Philippines, and on the Thai-Cambodian border and provided community mental health services to Southeast Asian and other refugee and immigrant groups in the United States. She served as a therapist for 13 years and the Director of Research and Evaluation at the Program for Torture Victims in Los Angeles before joining the faculty of the University of Connecticut in 2011. She has co-chaired the U.S.-based National Consortium of Torture Treatment Program's (NCTTP's) Research and Data Committee since 2008.

Dr. Berthold has conducted National Institute of Mental Health-funded research examining the prevalence of mental and physical health consequences among Cambodian refugee genocide survivors. Her community-based participatory research in Cambodian refugee communities across the United States has contributed to building community capacity to conduct research to address their health disparities. Her current research includes examining the impact of US-based Cambodian Health Workers' remote training of village Health Workers in Cambodia on an evidenced-based culturally specific self-management intervention to address diabetes risk. She has conducted hundreds of forensic psychosocial evaluations, testified extensively as an expert witness in U.S. Immigration Court, and has worked with legal teams to prepare witnesses to testify. She has trained many attorneys on identifying and responding to their own vicarious trauma in working with traumatized clients.

Dr. Berthold has published widely. The National Association of Social Workers selected Dr. Berthold as the 2009 National Social Worker of the Year for her work with torture survivors.