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### Cure Violence Ranks 17<sup>th</sup> on 2015 Top 500 Global NGO List; 1<sup>st</sup> among Violence Prevention NGOs

CHICAGO, IL -- Cure Violence ranks 17<sup>th</sup> on Global\_Geneva's new 2015 report of the Top 500 NGOs and is ranked as the top NGO devoted to reducing violence, one of the definitive international rankings of the world's non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The full set of rankings are available at [www.top500ngos.net](http://www.top500ngos.net).

Cure Violence, founded by Gary Slutkin, M.D. professor of international health and infectious disease at University of Illinois at Chicago, works to reduce violence globally using disease control and behavior change methods. It has demonstrated its effectiveness in stopping lethal violence that often leads to shootings and killings. Cure Violence works to reduce and eradicate violence all over the globe and includes gang and youth violence, cartel, tribal, election and prison violence.

Multiple external evaluations have shown the Cure Violence approach reduces acts of violence 40-50% in the first year, and significantly higher percentages over a two-three year period. Furthermore, reductions in violence occur almost immediately when implemented in a community.

"I am thrilled Cure Violence is ranked among the top 20 global NGOs. It's a tribute to our extraordinarily committed staff, board and many partners working on the ground in dangerous places on four continents," Slutkin said.

Jean-Christophe Nothias, the ranking's founder, says a key reason for the ranking was simply to shine a brighter light on the nonprofit sector. "A few years ago, I set out to rank NGOs," says Nothias, "Non-profits foster tremendous changes in society, but the scant publicity around their work leaves most of us in the dark."

Along with expanding the rankings in 2015, Swiss non-profit Global\_Geneva restructured organizationally, enhanced its ranking methodology and integrated a number of changes recommended by academic researchers. "This year our criteria for the rankings has further evolved from the original to a broader and more inclusive account of NGO activity," says Nothias. "The many criteria make possible a more nuanced understanding of all the great work

the rankings try to highlight." Global\_Geneva's [2015 Methodology paper](#) can be accessed on its website.

Four years in the making, the Top 500 NGOs grows out of *The Global Journal* 2012 and 2013 Top 100 NGO rankings. Cure Violence ranked 30<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> in the top 100 NGO Rankings in 2012 and 2013 respectively. No rankings were published in 2014.

Among the 500 highest ranked NGOs of 2015 are the UK organizations Oxfam, Islamic Relief International and Save The Children, the USA organizations Acumen, Partners In Health and World Vision, as well as organizations from Bangladesh (BRAC), Denmark (Danish Refugee Council), and the top-ranked MSF (Doctors Without Borders) from France.

The USA still leads in sheer number of ranked NGOs with 26% of the 2015 rankings. Within the top ten are the Acumen Fund (#4), Partners In Health (#7), and World Vision (#10). Thirty-eight US organizations rank in the top 100, including Ceres, Landesa, One Acre Fund, Cure Violence, Ashoka, Mercy Corps, Room to Read, Root Capital, Rare, Care and the Open Society.

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#### About Cure Violence ([www.cureviolence.org](http://www.cureviolence.org))

Violence spreads like a disease. That means prevention is possible. Using the same science-based tools used to fight infectious diseases including tuberculosis, cholera and AIDS, the Cure Violence Health Approach is reducing community violence in cities around the world. We train and deploy carefully selected workers – trusted members of the communities we serve – to mitigate the contagion process using a three point strategy:

1. Detect and interrupt the transmission of violence. Anticipate where violence may occur and intervene before it erupts.
2. Change the behavior of the highest potential transmitters. Identify those at highest risk for violence and work to change their behavior.
3. Change community norms. Influence social norms to discourage the use of violence.

Ranked as a top 20 NGO by *Global\_Geneva* and featured in the award-winning documentary ***The Interrupters*** and Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn's New York Times Best Seller ***A Path Appears***, Cure Violence is building an international movement to reduce violence through a health approach. The program was founded at University of Illinois-Chicago in 1995 by Gary Slutkin, M.D. and has partners in eight countries on four continents, including over 50 neighborhoods in 25 U.S. cities.

#### About Global\_Geneva ([top500ngos.net](http://top500ngos.net))

Global\_Geneva was launched in 2011 by Jean-Christophe Nothias, former editor of *The Global Journal*. In 2014, following the 2012 and 2013 Top 100 NGO rankings published by *The Global Journal*, Global\_Geneva took over the expansion of the ranking. As the home of the Top 500 NGOs ranking, Global\_Geneva will monitor the growth of the non-profit sector, looking for ideas, values and models that challenge normal approaches to policy and the market.

By ranking NGOs, Global\_Geneva seeks to: showcase the diversity and scale of organizations encompassed by the 'NGO' label; compare NGOs using criteria that transcend geography and field of activity; stimulate inquiry and debate about NGO impact, innovation and sustainability; and present a wide range of exemplary NGO work so that sector-wide trends can be observed year to year and annual rankings adjusted over time. Global\_Geneva's research team began as a group of Masters students and PhD candidates in the Geneva area, and has expanded to a global network of researchers working in a number of languages. Global\_Geneva's network of NGOs is built from over 1,800 organizations. NGOs500 is poised to become not just the definitive ranking of NGOs but also a forum for discussing trends, ideas and innovations related to the non-profit sector.