



## VoRTCS Connect – August 2013

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### Bridge to Brisbane Registrations Closing Soon

Online entries for the B2B fun run/walk will be accepted until 6.30pm on Friday August 30, 2013. All entrants registering from now on will need to collect their race kits directly from the race office, which is located at The Courier Mail Piazza, corner of Little Stanley and Glenelg Streets, South Bank Parklands, South Brisbane.

If you can't join the VoRTCS team on the day, you can really help by sponsoring them - even encouraging co-workers, family, friends to sponsor as well. team. Funds raised will go directly to running our program to help ensure we can continue help refugees most in need in our community.

#### How you can help:

You can sponsor the VoRTCS team at our [Everyday Hero](#) fundraising website. Or register to join our team and help raise money for VoRTCS - search team name VoRTCS, or team number 27776 (10km) and 29684 (5km) on the [Brisbane to Brisbane Registration](#) website.

The 10 km starts 6am at Murarrie and the 5km starts 9.40am at Hamilton. **Cost:** 5km - \$35 or 10 km - \$40. For more information visit [www.bridgetobrisbane.com.au](http://www.bridgetobrisbane.com.au) or call 1300 55 55 77.

### HAVE YOU JOINED US ON Facebook?

Facebook is now up and running and continuously growing. Please [click here](#) and Like our page to keep uptodate with daily news and facts.

### Queensland Multicultural Week

From 31 August to 8 September, Queensland will hold its first Multicultural Week, with events and activities organised across the state to celebrate and showcase the benefits of our diversity.

Check out the program to see what's on in your area: <http://www.datsima.qld.gov.au/multicultural/be-involved/queensland-multicultural-week>

Our friends at MDA are organising three events in Brisbane: a theatre night with work created by artists from a refugee background; a comedy debate on multiculturalism; a film festival with two nights of film featuring the work of independent and aspiring filmmakers. Details at: <http://www.mdainc.org.au/QMW>

## **Bianca's Update -Graduating Your Family**

When is a family actually ready to graduate? This isn't always an easy question to answer and we know tutors can sometimes be uncertain when a family has reached the point where they are beyond the level of our assistance and ready to take the reins themselves.

If you find yourself wondering if your family is ready to take the next step, the two attached Evaluation Tools (*Self-Evaluation Check Sheet & Functional Area Descriptors*) will help you identify any areas the family may **still** need assistance with or if they are **competent** performing the activities themselves.

Not all families are the same, so some areas of evaluation may not be relevant. Also, it may be that there are no longer enough family members needing help to justify ongoing assistance from three tutors. If this is the case, we can try to link them with appropriate organisations. Just remember, VoRTCS is not a homework club and there are many clubs and English courses around Brisbane to assist and support families. For information about these, or if you have any questions or concerns about graduating your family, please call me on 3010 1069 or email [bianca.nisbet@svdpqld.org.au](mailto:bianca.nisbet@svdpqld.org.au).

The recommended steps for graduating a family are also attached in a third document (*Family Graduation Steps*) and then monthly sessions before concluding tutoring completely.

And remember, if you know anyone who may be interested in becoming a tutor, please direct them to: <http://www.refugeetutoring.org/register-to-attend-training.php>

## **Need Tutor Resouces?**

The VoRTCS library has tutor resources to assist refugee families of all ages and stages. To introduce you to the wealth of resources available, we'll regularly highlight items that you can borrow for use in your tutoring sessions. This month, we have a list of books with the theme of ***Beginnings***.

### ***A Whole New World* edited by Dorothy Court Hazel Davidson and Margaret Hounslow;**

This book will help those working with newly arrived refugee students and others needing elementary language, literacy,

numeracy and life skills to function effectively in Australian society.

It contains suggestions for teaching tips, activities and projects, worksheets to photocopy, charts and pictures, and ideas for making your own reading materials relevant to your family's needs.

### **Bi-lingual Picture Dictionaries**

***Everyday Australian Picture Dictionary English-S'gaw Karen***

***Everyday Australian Picture Dictionary English-Kirundi***

***Everyday Australian Picture Dictionary English-Mã'di***

***Everyday Australian Picture Dictionary English-Thok***

The dictionaries have sections divided grammatically with brief, straight-forward definitions of the parts of speech including: verbs, nouns, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions and prepositions. There are also pictures and numerous small illustrations to provide context. *Unlimited photocopying permission is given for educational, non-commercial purposes*

### **Feedback**

We would love to hear your feedback and ideas for stories in future editions. Please email [publications@refugeetutoring.org](mailto:publications@refugeetutoring.org)

Also, if any of your team is not getting this newsletter, please ask them to contact us so we can add their name to the list.

Please visit our website at [www.vinnies.org.au/vortcs-refugee-tutoring-qld](http://www.vinnies.org.au/vortcs-refugee-tutoring-qld)

Donate to our cause [click here](#).