



NAMASTE

BASA to provide SGP Services



Bhutanese SGP Team with ARA CEO Peter Laintoll

Bhutanese Association in Australia has been awarded AUD \$77,053.00 Settlement Grant Project (SGP) fund to help resettled Bhutanese in their process of transition and integration in South Australia.

The SGP is funded by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) for one year and is managed by the Australian Refugee Association (ARA) in collaboration with Bhutanese Association in South Australia (BASA). ARA has recruited Bikram Adhikari and Sushil Niroula from the Bhutanese community as the project officers to deliver the services to the community.

The fund will be used to provide a number of services to the eligible community members including case works, referrals and information sessions. This is the first ever SGP grant that the Bhutanese humanitarian entrants have exclusively received after their resettlement in SA began in early-2008.

Terming the ARA managed SGP for BASA a “milestone” for the Bhutanese in South Australia, BASA chairperson Jogen Gazmere said, “It is, in fact, the beginning of a new and significant chapter, where Bhutanese, in first hand, will learn the work culture and ethics of Australia. This will facilitate and pave way for the effective and healthier integration of Bhutanese in the broader Australian society.”

The ARA Chief Executive Officer, Peter Laintoll similarly expressed his happiness over the awarding of the managed grant to BASA. He said, “ARA sees the awarding of the BASA managed grant as a clear indication of DIAC’s support of building capacity of small and emerging communities. He was optimistic that with one year of mentorship, BASA will have the capacity to submit the SGP for 2011/12 financial year with BASA as Grant Manager and ARA providing a professional mentoring role.”

According to Bikram Adhikari, the grant, besides providing community people with the settlement services when they exit from the IHSS programme, BASA will also focus on developing future leaders, equipped with professional skills to develop plans and programmes for the community independently. In October 2009, ARA had formulated a work-plan for a grant with the help of Mr. Adhikari under ARA Traineeship Program.

Chairperson’s View

On 5th November 2009, BASA formally got incorporated as a community organization under the Association Act 1985 Section 20(1) of Government of South Australia. We are now very close to completing one year of incorporation and our organization continues to evolve and grow. Within this time period, the number of Bhutanese in South Australia has doubled with the population reaching 600 plus and more are expected to arrive in the coming months.

The year has been encouraging for the Bhutanese community to have continuous attention and support from the Lieutenant Governor Hieu Van Le, AO, Chairperson of Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission. With the gracious support from the Lieutenant Governor, BASA was enabled to establish a fraternal relationship with Campania Sports and Social Club - one of the oldest Italian communities in South Australia. We look forward to strengthening our relationship with the Campania Community and enriching ourselves from their experience and support.

Receiving the Recognition Award from Multicultural Youth SA and Family SA, BASA has added a feather to its cap for encouraging and involving youths in its organizational activities. BASA has started to provide service to the Bhutanese community by commencing Settlement Grant Program in partnership with ARA, funded by the DIAC. Initiated by the Lieutenant Governor, BASA in conjunction with Salisbury City Council is on its way to begin social and recreational activities for the elderly in the Bhutanese community. BASA has also got the fund sanctioned from Community Benefit Grant for buying utensils for the community use.

We are happy of the fact that a large number of Bhutanese children and youth are pursuing their studies in different institutions satisfactorily. A good number of youth and adults have undergone vocational trainings in TAFE and other institutions and some are already employed. We yearn to see all the Bhutanese becoming educated, skilled, productive and well integrated in South Australia. Towards realising this, BASA, in the coming days, wishes to work closely with the government agencies, MRC, LCC, ARA, STARS, Migrant Health Service and other institutions and individuals.

Jogen Gazmere

Chairperson
Bhutanese Association in South Australia

बासाको SGP कार्यक्रम

एकिकृत मानवीय पुनर्वास सेवा (IHSS) बाट सहयोग पाउन छाडेका भुटानीलाई बासाले अस्ट्रेलियन शरणार्थी संगठनको सहयोगमा बसोबास सहयोग कार्यक्रम (SGP) सेवा दिदैछ । यसले नयाँ आगन्तुकलाई बृहत अस्ट्रेलियन समाजमा समाहित हुन केसवर्क, प्रस्ताव र सुचना दिएर सहयोग पुऱ्याउने लक्ष्य राखेको छ ।

यस कार्यक्रमले SGP-सेवा प्राप्त गर्न योग्य भुटानीहरूलाई स्वावलम्बी, सामाजिक छलफलमा भाग लिन सक्ने, समाजको विकासका लागि सहयोग र व्यक्तिगत आवश्यकताहरूबारे बोल्ने ठाउँ प्रदान गर्ने प्रयत्न गर्ने छ । यो ARA को अन्डरडेल कार्यलयबाट सञ्चालन हुनेछ । बासा SGP का कर्मचारी भुटानी समाजको कुनै पनि विषयमा छलफल गर्न उपलब्ध हुनेछन् ।

उपलब्ध सेवाहरू

- केसवर्क, केस व्यवस्थापन र प्रस्तावहरू
- सुचना कक्षाहरू
- समुदाय क्षमता विकास
- नेतृत्व विकास तालिम
- सांस्कृतिक सचेनता
- वकालत
- आर्थिक सल्लाहकारकोमा प्रस्ताव
- बसेको ठाउँको भ्रमण
- परिवार सहयोग कार्यक्रममा केस प्रस्ताव
- घर र बसोवासको व्यवस्था
- फर्महरू भर्न मद्दत गर्ने
- ड्राइभिङ शिक्षा कार्यक्रम

Get together for elderly people

BASA and Salisbury Council for the first time held an interactive community meeting among the elderly people of the Bhutanese community on July 29, and August 12, 2010. The meeting organised especially for people above 55 years of age was held at St. John's Church, Church Street, Salisbury at 11.00 am.

The Community Meeting was an opportunity for elderly people of Bhutanese community to discuss community needs for ageing population. According to understanding between Salisbury Council and BASA, the two institutions will work together for the welfare of elderly people of the Bhutanese community now on. The programme will be held every fortnightly for first three months and weekly thereafter. The first three months has been taken as trial to know if the elderly people will have easy transport access and financial arrangement. The elderly people are entertained with Bhajans, Sangini and Nepali and Hindi films including religious series like Mahabharat, Ramayana at the meeting. Besides, they can get introduced with each other and talk about their past days, go for pre-arranged outings and learn English through activities.

As requested by the council, BASA has provided volunteers from Bhutanese community to facilitate the programme. Currently, Nirmala Dahal, Mitra, Hari Pokhrel, Santiram and Antarey Dhakal and Arjun Niraula are working as volunteers and Kamal Dahal is coordinating the activities. The programme will be held on Thursdays between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm. Other interested candidates for volunteering can join the service. They should bear a valid driver license and police check.

सूचना

समुदायका ज्येष्ठ सदस्यहरू, भुटानी संगठन दक्षिण अष्ट्रेलिया (BASA) र सल्लस्वरी काउन्सिलकोतर्फबाट तपाईंहरू सबैलाई भुटानी समाज सहयोग कार्यक्रममा सहभागी भाइदिनुहुन हार्दिक अनुरोध छ।

उक्त कार्यक्रम १२ अगस्त २०१० विहिवारदेखि सल्लस्वरीको चर्च स्ट्रिटमा रहेको सेन्ट जोहन्स चर्चामा ११ बजेदेखि आयोजना गरिनेछ।

यातायात र कोषको व्यवस्था मिलाउन केही समय लाग्ने हुँदा पहिलो तीन महिना यो कार्यक्रम पाक्षिक (पन्द्र दिनमा एक पटक) रुपमा गरिने छ भने त्यस पश्चात् हरेक बिहिवार हुनेछ । यो कार्यक्रमलाई सल्लस्वरी काउन्सिलको

(समुदाय सेवा/स्वस्थ बृद्धावस्था तथा पहुँच)

समुदाय सहयोग कार्यक्रमले कोष उपलब्ध गराउँछ ।

यसको प्रमुख लक्ष्य भनेको हिडडुल गर्न नसकेर अथवा अन्य कारणले घरैमा बस्न वाध्य भएका मानिषाहरूलाई समाजमा घुलमिल हुने मौका दिलाउनु हो । यस कार्यक्रममा सहभागी हुँदा तपाईंलाई निम्न कुराहरूमा फायदा हुनेछ ।

१। समुदायका अरु मनिसहरूसँग घुलमिल हुन

२। मित्रता बडाउन

३। एकलोपन हटाउन

४। योग, भजन-कीर्तन गर्न

५। समाचार सुन्न, समसामयिक विषयमा

जानकारी लिन

६। भाषा सिक्न, सेन्टर्लिङ्क लगायत बिभिन्न

संस्थाबाट पाइने सेवाबारे जानकारी लिन

७। व्यक्तित्व विकाश मार्फत समुदायको कल्याण

गर्न आदि ।

यस्ता क्रियाकलापबाट तपाईंको मानसिक तथा शारीरिक स्वस्थताभ हुनेछ। यो कार्यक्रम समुदायका असक्त ज्येष्ठ सदस्यहरूलाई लक्षित गरी तयार गरिएको हो । भुटानी समुदायका स्वयंसेवकहरूले तपाईंहरूलाई कार्यक्रम स्थलमा लैजाने, सामाजिक गतिबिधिमा सहभागी गराउने र घरसम्म पुऱ्याउने काम गर्नेछन् ।

यस कार्यक्रमका लागि स्वयंसेवकहरू पनि चाहिएको हुँदा इच्छुक व्यक्तिले भेन्ना (०४०१९८४७६९) अथवा मेरी (०४३४१८०५६७) लाई संपर्क गरी थप जानकारी लिन पनि अनुरोध गर्दछु ।

कमल दाहाल

संयोजक, परिवार सेवा विभाग

भुटानी संगठन दक्षिण अष्ट्रेलिया (BASA)

Bhutanese in South Australia observe second anniversary



Chief guest, Lieutenant Governor of South Australia, Mr. Hieu Van Le inaugurating the event.

Bhutanese resettled in South Australia celebrated their second anniversary of resettlement in Australia at Dom Polski Centre, Adelaide on May 14, 2010, Friday.

Commemorating the day on which two families arrived in Adelaide under the ongoing third country resettlement programme of the Australian government, the Bhutanese Association in South Australia (BASA) organised it to entertain the guests with various cultural presentations, share stories and cuisine.

The formal programme commenced at 6:00 pm with the candle lighting by the chief guest, Lieutenant Governor of South Australia, Mr. Hieu Van Le AO. Also present at the function were the representatives from Department of Immigration And Citizenship (DIAC), Migrant Resource Centre of South Australia and over 50 other distinguished guests.

Sushil Niroula coordinated the event with the help of active participants and volunteers. A visualized story of one of the victims of torture from Bhutan, Pabitra Gautam, was presented.

Addressing the function, the Lieutenant Governor Van Le, expressed his commitments to support the Bhutanese community settle well in South Australia. He said, "It is tragic in today's world that the Bhutanese people who have such a long history and culture would be prosecuted and forced to flee their homes simply for not confirming to some arbitrary rules imposed by the authoritarian government'. He assured that those Bhutanese people who are resettled in South Australia could remain free from fear of prosecution, torture and detention.

Two of the songs presented separately by the elderly women and a group of the artists from the community were filled with words of thanks to Australia for giving them new life.

Bikram Adhikari, the public officer of BASA, concluded the programme, attended by more than 400 resettled Bhutanese, with a vote of thanks.

Annual Day in Pictures



Recognition Award for BASA

Multicultural Youth of South Australia (MYSA) has honoured the Bhutanese youths and their community organization with the Recognition Award at the 'Night of Stars Refugee Week Event' on June 20, 2010.

The recognition award has been given to the Bhutanese Association In South Australia (BASA) and one individual, Bishnu Kafley from the same community. Kafley was honoured for his active participation in the activities of MYSA. BASA was bestowed the award in recognition for involving community youth in its executive body and making progress in a short period of time by promoting them in various activities.

The award has added enthusiasm and energy to the community youth and their organisation in South Australia. "The bestowal of Recognition Award by MYSA and Family SA is the mark of recognition and appreciation of effort made by the Bhutanese in South Australia to actively involve the youth for community development and progress", said Jogen Gazmere, the chairperson of BASA. He also expressed his confidence that the award would encourage every Bhutanese to work harder to make the community organisation more vibrant, productive and purposeful.

Tara Gautam, the Education Desk coordinator of BASA accepted the award in presence of the officials from Family SA, SA Police and the Department of Immigration And Citizenship (DIAC). Receiving the award, Gautam thanked MYSA and its partner organizations for nominating BASA for the award.



BASA Formalises Relation With Campaina Community

A five-member delegation comprising Jogen Gazmere, Bikram Adhikari, Samjauta Rai, Kamal Dahal and Tika Katel from BASA formally held a meeting with the President, Mr. Mark Quaglia and Secretary, Ms. Marilena Ranaldo of Campania Sports and Social Club (*Italian Community*) on July 5, 2010 in Multicultural SA complex, under the aegis of Lieutenant Governor Hieu Van Le, accompanied by Tony Simeone, Commissioner of Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission.

This meeting was personally facilitated by Lieutenant Governor Van Lee to bring the newly emerging Bhutanese Community into a relation of friendship and fraternity with the old and established Italian community.

The Lieutenant Governor Van Lee started the meeting by introducing the representatives from the two communities and explaining the objectives of the meeting. The Lieutenant Governor said that by connecting the emerging community with an experienced and established community, the former would benefit by learning from experiences of the later to facilitate and smoothen their process of transition and integration.

The Bhutanese representatives shared their experiences and challenges faced while in the refugee camps in Nepal as well as after resettlement in South Australia. The Italian representatives shared the hardship and difficulty experienced by their first generation in Australia. There was a prolonged and insightful discussion on immigration and resettlement related topics and issues. The President and Secretary of the Campania Community have expressed their happiness for entering into a relation of friendship with the Bhutanese community and affirmed to support the Bhutanese community in different possible ways. The BASA representatives reciprocated with similar gesture and thanked the Lieutenant Governor for providing the Bhutanese community with such a good 'navigator' (*the Campania Community*) to help them navigate through the arduous journey of resettlement and integration.

The Bhutanese team parted from the meeting with a word to keep in touch and to visit one another's organisation to strengthen and deepen their relationship. With the 70 years of history and experiences and the well established infrastructure and public relations, Campania community is expected to be a great resource for the Bhutanese in their journey of resettlement and integration into the broader Australian society.

In reciprocal, BASA invited a five member representative from the Campania Community for formal reception cum introduction programme with the members of the constitutional bodies of BASA and the members of the Bhutanese community in South Australia. The formal programme was held at Coglein Community Centre on July 18, 2010 at 1:00 pm, where Bhutanese performers presented their dances and shared traditional tea.

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BASA Representatives Meets Senator Chris Evans



BASA team with Senator Chris Evans and MP Steve Georganas

The Federal Minister for Immigration and Citizenship, Senator Chris Evans and MP Steve Georganas, Federal Member for Hindmarsh visited ARA and also discussed various aspects of the Bhutanese settlement in South Australia including the SGP grant, with the Bhutanese Project Officers.

Ichha Poudyel, who represented BASA at the meeting, thanked the Minister for the Government effort to help Bhutanese settle in South Australia. He also informed the minister about the problems of the family whose members are still in the refugee camp awaiting reunion.

BASA observed 197th Bhanu Jayanti

BASA observed 197th birth anniversary of the prominent poet of Nepali literature, Bhanu Bhakta Acharya, on July 13 2010 with various functions.

The programme was organised at the Community Centre at Coglein Street in Adelaide. Australian National award winner writers, Max and Jacqui graced the programme as the Guests of Honour and Deepak Bista, life member of the Non-Resident Nepali Association (NRNA) was the chief Guest. The celebration formally began with candle lighting and offering garland on the portrait of Bhanu Bhakta Acharya by the guests.

A translated copy of the short biography of Adi Kabi Bhanu Bhakta Acharya was distributed to the guests.

The Bhutanese community members who participated in the programme recited few poems and a story; Max read his poem, 'Men of Skins' which had won a National award in 2008 while Jacqui entertained the audience with her poem, 'Mining Town Pianist'. Awards were given away to the best performers.

'Although BASA has excelled in promoting the Bhutanese-Nepali culture in South Australia, we are just beginning to do the same for our language and literature', said Sushil Niraula, the Coordinator of the Language and Cultural Desk of BASA. Appreciating the Bhutanese community for keeping alive the tradition of honouring the icon of their ethnic language, Bista formally concluded the celebration.

It was the first literary programme organized by the Language and Cultural Desk of BASA. It aims to organise such programmes continuously in future as well to remember literary tycoons of the Nepali literature and encouraging young Bhutanese in literature.