



Brotherhood of St Laurence
Working for an Australia free of poverty

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 15 June 2010

Celebrate the start of Refugee Week with football and music

No Worries Festival

Saturday 19 June, 10.30 am – 2.00 pm

Atherton Gardens, cnr Gertrude St and Brunswick St, Fitzroy

On Saturday 19 June the Fitzroy community will celebrate with the inaugural No Worries Festival on the eve of Refugee Week, in Atherton Gardens. Everyone is welcome to join in with a vibrant mix of soccer, music and information, helping people build connections and gain a broader understanding of our diverse community.

The No Worries Festival will also include the launch of *The No Worries Festival* CD which includes performances from local musicians and hip hop artists recently arrived from countries including Sierra Leone, West Papua, Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The CD contains a handy service directory of local services available to help young people. Free copies of the CD will be distributed at the presentation ceremony at 2 pm.

Four soccer teams from Carlton, Fitzroy and the Western Suburbs will compete in a tournament from 10.30 am. Presentations to the winners will be made at 2 pm.

This fresh new festival is the brainchild of the emerging leaders Youth Advisory Group made up of young people from a diversity of backgrounds. The Youth Advisory Group identified a need for young people in the community to get support and to build connections with service providers, and that music and sport are the most dynamic ways to engage youth. These young leaders are supported by a partnership between the Ecumenical Migration Centre of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and the Fitzroy Learning Network.

For more information about Refugee Week go to www.refugeecouncil.org.au

For more information, or to organise an interview with a member of the Youth Advisory Group, please call Johanna de Wever on (0424) 751 920 or jdewever@bsl.org.au