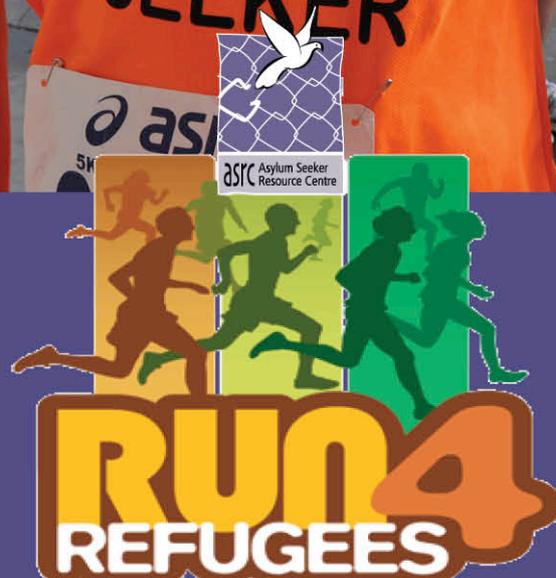
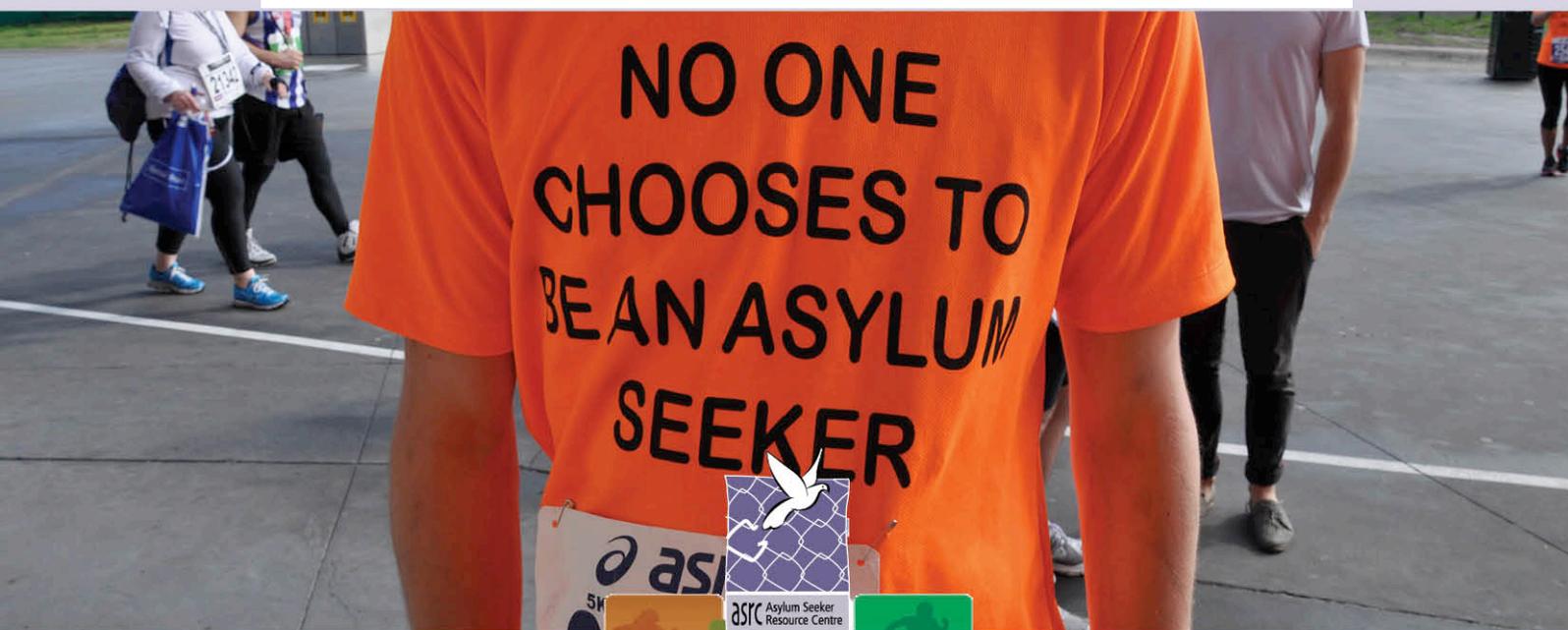




ASRC

ASYLUM SEEKER
RESOURCE CENTRE

Run 4 Refugees October, 2012 Information Pack



12 Batman Street, West Melbourne 3003 | ph. 03 9326 6066

www.asrc.org.au

Why Run for Refugees?

RUN FOR REFUGEES – One person can make all the difference. Help us raise \$250,000 this year as we work to show the government that our community processing model works!

Run for Refugees and you can give an asylum seeker an entire year of hope. By joining 'RUN FOR REFUGEES' in 2012 you will help raise funds for the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC).

The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre aims to protect and uphold the human rights, wellbeing and dignity of asylum seekers by providing Aid, Empowerment, Justice and Community programs. We are an independent, registered, non-governmental agency working at the coal face with some of our community's most vulnerable people.

Since opening our doors in June 2001, the ASRC has become the largest provider of aid, advocacy and health services for asylum seekers in Australia. We work directly with asylum seekers living in our community to provide direct aid and support as they seek refugee status in Australia. We have assisted over 7000 people seeking asylum and provided more than 1 million hours of free help, vowing to turn no person in need away.

With only 24 full time equivalent paid staff, the majority of our work is conducted by a dedicated team of over 750 volunteers. This means that the majority of funds raised go directly to the critical support and settlement services we offer to over 1,150 asylum seekers. These include:

- Casework
- Legal services and representation
- Material Aid (such as nappies, blankets, clothing, metcards and phonecards)
- Foodbank (providing nutritious groceries)
- Community Meals (free hot lunch available at ASRC Monday to Friday)
- Health care and counseling
- English language classes, including specialist workplace English preparation
- Employment and training assistance and referral, and
- Community Development

In the past financial year the ASRC:

- Provided over 15,000 hot meals through our Community Meals Program
- Distributed weekly groceries to 125 asylum seeker families through our Foodbank
- Medically cared for 596 asylum seekers
- Provided one of Australia's largest pro bono law programs to asylum seekers from 57 countries with over 2000 legal assistance appointments
- Placed some 120 asylum seekers in TAFE vocational training courses in areas of chronic skills shortage
- Organised 250 work placements, some of which lead to ongoing employment
- Assisted with English language improvement through our English as a second language classes, home English tutoring and workplace English programs.



All of this we have achieved with minimal Government funding, with more than 90% of our funding coming solely from the community and philanthropy.

In Australia, asylum seekers face the ongoing uncertainty of their future and a number of unique barriers:

- **Poverty:** over 75% of the asylum seekers who present to the ASRC have no income and are not eligible for Centrelink
- **Unemployment:** Over 70% of asylum seekers who present to the ASRC are unemployed, a rate that is more than 12 times the national average
- **Homelessness:** Asylum seekers face significantly higher rates of homelessness than the national average - 1200 times the national average in the experience of the ASRC
- **Isolation:** Asylum seekers lack access to transport due to no income support
- **No guaranteed access to Medicare:** Many asylum seekers have no guaranteed access to Medicare

ASRC fundamentally believes that:

- All people should be able to live their lives free from oppression and abuse.
- All people have the right to seek asylum and should have the opportunity to have their claims heard fairly.
- No asylum seeker should be subject to mandatory detention.
- All people should be treated in a just, humane and non-discriminatory manner. We support and assist all asylum seekers regardless of race, religion, gender or sexuality.
- We strive to work in partnership with asylum seekers to empower and foster independence.
- We celebrate the contribution of asylum seekers to the wider community.

We also campaign and lobby on behalf of asylum seekers and all Australians who want to change the unjust policies that Australia has adopted. Most importantly, at times of despair and hopelessness, we are there to offer comfort, friendship, hope and respite.

We are running so that asylum seekers can get the support they need from the ASRC to never have to go hungry or homeless.

How do I register?

How do I register for Run for Refugees?

All you need to do is register using the 'Run for Refugees Registration Form' that is on the Run for Refugees online giving page www.runforrefugees.gofundraise.com.au.

Please note that the registration is a two step process. You need to register with the ASRC as a member of our Run for Refugees team via www.runforrefugees.gofundraise.com.au, in order to set up your fundraising page. When registrations for the Melbourne Marathon open in June, you also need to register with them, selecting Run for Refugees as your team from the drop down box on the entry form. Once you have done this, you will receive a confirmation email and later, your Marathon registration kit, including your race number in the mail.

You can register for Run for Refugees in any of the 10 Melbourne Marathon categories including:

- Bank of Melbourne Marathon – 42.195km
- Flight Centre Melbourne Half Marathon – 21.1km
- 10km ADULT OVER 55 minutes
- 10km ADULT UNDER 55 minutes
- 10km CHILD OVER 55 minutes
- 10km CHILD UNDER 55 minutes
- 5.7km run ADULT
- 5.7km run CHILD
- 4km walk ADULT
- 4km walk CHILD

To register for the Run for Refugees team, complete the registration form which you can download from www.runforrefugees.gofundraise.com.au.

Website: www.runforrefugees.gofundraise.com.au

PLEASE NOTE IMPORTANT:

The purpose of registering with us early is to secure your place, prepare yourself physically (and mentally) for the event and maximize your fundraising. Registrations for the Marathon don't open until June 1st – you will also need to register with them (the earlier, the better, as races sold out quickly last year). We will send reminder emails to all runners registered with us when registration opens.

What do I get?

What do I get being part of the ASRC's RUN FOR REFUGEES TEAM?

1. If you raise over \$50, you will get a Run for Refugees special running T-Shirt (Australian Made) to run in and keep.
2. Have access to a personalized fundraising web site for you to add photos, updates, information on how much you've raised and ability for people to donate to you online.
3. Once you have registered to be part of ASRC's Run For Refugees Team you will be sent a Registration Pack including training advice and tips on how to raise money. You will also be advised as to when you can collect your team tshirt from the ASRC.
4. The satisfaction of providing asylum seekers with urgently needed food, medical care, aid and legal assistance simply through the money you raise by running or walking.
5. The chance to be part of a team, have fun and get fit all at the same time.
6. A personal feeling of great achievement at reaching a personal goal for you.



Frequently Asked Questions

1. How will the money I raise be used?

All money raised will be directed towards one of the 23 programs ASRC delivers to provide asylum seekers with essential services such as food, clothing, metacards, legal advice, counselling, health services and employment opportunities. Over 75% of our members do not receive any income or access to social services.

For example:

- \$35 will provide food for a week to a family seeking asylum.
- \$55 will provide medical care to 10 asylum seeker children.
- \$100 will provide community lunches for over 300 asylum seekers.

2. Can I run and/or fundraise as a team?

Yes! We encourage people to fundraise and or run as a team. It's a great way to train, get fit and motivated and raise money. This may be through your social or sporting club, friends or workplace. ASRC can provide you with posters to put up at your work place or information to send to colleagues and management to encourage them to support you. You will all need to register individually with Run for Refugees but you can train and raise money as a team/group.

3. What if I don't think I can run full marathon and want to do a shorter distance?

The Melbourne Marathon also has a range of different walking and running options from Half Marathon (21.1km to 4km) which you can register for and get people to sponsor you for.

4. What does it cost to Run for Refugees?

It does not cost anything to Run for Refugees. The only cost to runners is the standard Melbourne Marathon entry fee.

5. What does it cost to enter the Melbourne Marathon?

If you register by July 31st you get the early bird special. Figures have not been made available for 2012 as yet, but in 2011 the costs were:

Bank of Melbourne Marathon – 42.195km	\$110
Melbourne Half Marathon – 21.1km	\$85
10km Coffee Club (Adult)	\$50
10km Coffee Club (Child)	\$30
5km Run – Adult	\$35
5km Run – Child	\$25
3km Walk – Adult	\$30
3km Walk – Child	\$15

For your entry you get a timing chip, finishers medal and website results.

6. Is there a deadline to register?

ASRC strongly recommends registering by the end of June to not miss out as there is a maximum of 7500 places for the Half - Marathon.

Please email events@asrc.org.au with any further questions. We look forward to running with you for refugees in October.

7. What if I want to support the Run for Refugees Team but can't run or walk on the day?

There are plenty of other ways you can support the Run for Refugees Team apart from running or walking.

DONATE BY SPONSORING THE TEAM

Sponsor the Run for Refugees Team by just clicking the link below:

www.runforrefugees.gofundraise.com.au

All sponsorship over \$2 is fully tax – deductible.

VOLUNTEER TO SUPPORT THE TEAM

We need volunteers to help with all of the following:

- Photographing the team on the day of the Melbourne Marathon.
- People to cheer and support on the day of the run.
- Advice and mentoring from any professional runners to help us with our training runs.
- Physiotherapists to advise us on training and preparation.
- Massage therapists who could give quick foot and back massages to the team after the event.

If you can help with any of the above e – mail us at events@asrc.org.au

