



MAP Multi-Agency
Partnership BC
Working Together for Refugee Claimants

MAP Member Agency News

Weekly Bulletin # 28

February 5, 2020

NEWS!

MAP says 'thank you' to long time friend and supporter Vicki Chiu as she retired from the BC Ministry of Jobs Trade & Technology (now MJEDC) at a celebratory party on January 29th

Vicki's support to the well-being of refugee claimants throughout BC is deeply appreciated



Mariana Martinez Vieyra, MAP Co-chair (VAST) and Saleem Spindari, Past MAP Co-chair (MOSAIC) with Vicki Chiu.



Following the acquisition of \$1.2 m funding for the collaborative housing referral project for refugee claimants and the appointment of MOSAIC as lead agency in collaboration with MAP members, the project invites nominations to the Advisory Committee who will provide expertise and drive the initiative.

Members are invited to join in the following voting categories:

- Housing specialists: Shelter representative
- IT Systems Advisor
- Settlement agencies (including both BCSIS Stream B agencies)
- Person with lived refugee claimant experience

Plus the following non-voting members:

- Government representative (s): CBSA, IRCC, MJEDC

Nominees:

- *Attend monthly meetings and respond promptly to emails*
- *Be prepared to provide their expertise when needed*
- *Obtain authorization from their agency to dedicate time to the Advisory Committee.*

How to nominate yourself or someone else to be a member:

- Email MAP (info@mapbc.org) stating your desire to join, or nominating someone else, how you would contribute to the Committee within the categories listed, and that you can meet the expectations.
- The nomination must reach MAP NO LATER than midnight **February 13** (a reminder with these guidelines will be sent out)
- MAP co-chairs and MOSAIC will consider the applications, recommend to MAP membership who will make a final decision at the February MAP meeting: **Thursday Feb 27.**
- Questions? contact Jenny (MAP) or Alexandra (MOSAIC)

THANK YOU!

JOB OPPORTUNITY



MOSAIC Refugee Settlement and Integration Program is looking for a Coordinator of Refugee Claimants Housing Management and Referral. We would like to share this job posting with you, and please find details in the link: https://www.mosaicbc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Job-posting_Coordinator-of-RC-Housing-Management-and-Referral--Jan2020.pdf

This is a full time position with starting hourly rate range from \$ 25.16 to \$26.69 (depending on qualifications and experience), and **it's an ongoing position until a suitable candidate is found.**

Questions? Please contact: Tracy Tang

Program Assistant, Refugee Settlement & Integration **Family & Settlement Services**

5575 Boundary Road, Vancouver V5R 2P9

T 604 254 9626 ext.1064

ttang@mosaicbc.org

Dear members,

Join us tomorrow, on **Thursday 6 February**, for the next **virtual meeting on refugee claimants** to discuss key emerging issues nationally and to share information across regions.

The CCR hold these virtual meetings on refugee claimants four times a year.

This virtual meeting for CCR members is an opportunity to exchange information across regions about issues for refugee claimants (in the refugee claim process and in access to work permits, housing, etc).

At this meeting we will discuss the continuing impacts of the June 2019 changes to the law, and share information about action and strategies across the country to improve claimants' access to services.

Join the meeting to share what you know and to hear from others!

MEETING DETAILS

When: Thursday 6 February 2020
11am PST

[**REGISTER**](#)

The meeting will last 60 minutes.

Feb 4th 2020 - OTTAWA, Canada – The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Canada is pleased to welcome Ms. Rema Jamous Imseis as its new Representative in Canada, effective 27 January 2020.

Ms. Jamous is a native of Toronto, a dedicated humanitarian and lifelong advocate for refugees. She has been with UNHCR since 2017, most recently as Deputy Director for the Middle East and North Africa Bureau, where she covered UNHCR operations in North Africa, including Libya, as well as Yemen, the Gulf countries and Israel.

“I am thrilled to represent UNHCR in Canada, a country with a proud tradition of welcoming refugees, providing life-saving aid and supporting longer-term solutions for displaced persons,” said Jamous.

Ms. Jamous joins UNHCR Canada at a time when global displacement is at an all-time high. She will lead UNHCR Canada’s work in areas such as education for refugee children, putting women, girls and the most at risk at the heart of humanitarian response, and finding sustainable solutions for refugees – including resettlement to Canada, currently the world’s largest resettlement country.

“As conflict and persecution continue to force millions from their homes, we count on Canada to continue being an important ally in supporting refugees globally. At home, we see numerous examples of welcoming Canadians and volunteers who help enable refugees to make important contributions to their communities and to the country’s overall prosperity” Jamous added. “I am excited to see what we can accomplish by working together with Canada – and Canadians.”

Since joining the United Nations in 2003, Ms. Jamous has held numerous international assignments in the areas of political, legal and humanitarian affairs. Notably, she served as Head of the United Nations Regional Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in Cairo, and as Special Assistant to the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process in Jerusalem.

Azadeh Tamjeedi, former UNHCR representative in Vancouver says: *‘I am hoping that she will be able to make a trip out west in the coming year and will let you know prior to any planned trip. We’re looking forward to introducing her to stakeholders in the western region!’*



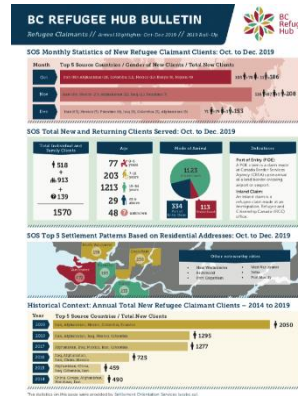
BC REFUGEE E-NEWSLETTER

Refugee Claimant Statistical Bulletin October - December 2019

JUST RELEASED!

The BCRH Refugee Claimant Statistical Highlights Bulletin is released once a quarter. Below is the newest addition with statistics from the fourth quarter of 2019 (October - December).

[Read Bulletin >](#)



English Conversation Circles for Refugees and Refugee Claimants: A Comprehensive Listing

The BC Refugee Hub recognizes the need for additional opportunities for refugees and refugee claimants to practice and develop English conversation skills. For Refugee Claimants, often free or low-cost conversation circles and groups are the only resource they are eligible for while their claim is being processed.

We have gathered a comprehensive listing of English Conversation Circles in one webpage for quick access and easy for referrals. If you know of a circle or group not listed, please e-mail refugeehub@issbc.org to add to the webpage.

[View Resource >](#)



The BC Refugee Hub is frequently updated with new resources, factsheets, programs and services related to refugees in BC.

[View All Recent Updates](#)

YOUTH VOLUNTEERS!

Eric Hamber Secondary School Work Experience Program wants to place two students that are interested in volunteering with organizations that support refugees. Both students are exploring career paths that will allow them to support immigrants and refugees. Typically, our students are placed at an organization in areas of their career interests, for between 40 - 90 hours total either after school (or weekends) or during the school's winter, spring, or summer breaks during the day.

Interested? Please contact:

Edna James, Work Experience Coordinator

Eric Hamber Secondary School

5025 Willow Street, Vancouver BC V5Z 3S1

Telephone: 604-713-8927 <http://hamber.vsb.bc.ca/>

NOTE: Only agencies with WorkSafe BC affiliation can apply

To learn more about the Work Experience Program click:

Program Information

WORKSAFE BC

Employers must have WorkSafe BC coverage. The Ministry of Education provides WorkSafe BC coverage for all students during the dates and hours stated on the Work Education Agreement.

INSURANCE

The Vancouver School Board maintains the liability insurance with respect to its liability and that of student workers involved in this program.

REMUNERATION

There is no expectation that students on work experience will be paid. Honorarium are acceptable when warranted.

PROCEDURES REGARDING INJURY AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION

1. The **student** must report any injury immediately to a supervisor/employer.
2. It is the responsibility of the **employer** to:
 - » Follow the same procedure that is followed for injured employees regarding first aid, hospitalization, etc.
 - » Immediately report injury to the Vancouver School Board school-based Work Experience Teacher at contact number listed on the Work Education Agreement.
 - » Communicate to the Vancouver School Board school-based Work Experience teacher first aid administered to the student on site.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Vancouver School Board

Career Programs

Tel | 604 713 5060

careerprograms.vsb.bc.ca



Facebook @VSB Career Ed

Twitter @vsbcareered

Instagram @vsb_career_ed



CAREER PROGRAMS

VSB Vancouver School Board

Work Experience

An Invitation to Employers, Students, and the Community





2-Day Job Preparation Workshop for Refugee Claimants

February 6-7 (Thursday & Friday): 10:30 am-12:30 pm

MOSAIC - 5575 Boundary Road, Vancouver

- A guide to writing resumes and communicating with employers
- Create or update your resume with MOSAIC one-on-one support
- Language support (French, Spanish, Farsi)

Contact Tracy at (604) 254-9626 or ttang@mosaicbc.org

We will be offering a **2-day Job Preparation workshop for refugee claimants on Thursday February 6 and Friday February 7 at MOSAIC**. Both days will be from **10:30 am – 12:30 pm**.

These sessions will cover a guide to resumes, references, and other job search information. Participants will also have the opportunity to work one-on-one in our computer lab to either create or update their resume with support. Please circulate it.

Language support is available in **Farsi, Spanish, and French**. The address is 5575 Boundary Road, Vancouver.

To register, please contact Tracy at ttang@mosaicbc.org or call 604-254-9626.



WelcomeBC

*We gratefully acknowledge the financial support
of the Province of British Columbia through the
Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology.*



First Aid training for refugee claimants will take place at MOSAIC Surrey office from 9:00 am to 5:30 pm - February 15.

- Spanish speaking instructor provided
- Spaces are limited, registration required
- Made possible by the Government of British Columbia.

Please don't hesitate to contact Kuol at 604 254-9626 or via email at kbiong@mosaicbc.org if you have any questions.

First Aid Training for Refugee Claimants

Saturday February 15, 2020

9:00 am—5:30 pm

MOSAIC 200 — 7134 King George Blvd, Surrey BC

- FREE Training: Receive a Certificate
- Occupational First Aid Level 1
- Highly valued by Canadian employers in many industries
- Training in English/Spanish

Contact Kuol at (604) 254-9626 or kbiong@mosaicbc.org

A MESSAGE FROM LEGAL SERVICES SOCIETY: (3 PAGES)

Thank you for contributing your experience and providing your feedback to improve this resource (overleaf) about how to make a refugee claim. You should have received a draft design of the resource “Making a Refugee Claim” to provide feedback.

Background and context on the “Making a Refugee Claim” resource

- The scope of this resource is to give a general overview of the process, not to provide a comprehensive understanding or give detailed information about specific situations. This resource is meant to be used by a service provider as an aid in guiding their client through an overview of the refugee claim process.
- The resource has been written and developed closely with a lawyer well-versed in refugee claims. However, the draft content as a whole has not gone through a legal review. The content is going through the legal review right now. Therefore, when you provide feedback, please do not focus too much on the legal aspects. Instead, focus more about if you think the process is explained clearly, or if the design or layout is helpful and clear. Please focus on the questions below.
- **Please send your answers to Patricia.Lim@lss.bc.ca by Friday, Feb 7th.** Thank you so much for your help!

Feedback questions to answer:

1. Does it outline the refugee claim process clearly? Why or why not?
2. How easily can you find information that you would want to point out to clients who want to make a refugee claim?
3. Is there anything about the general refugee claim process that is missing from the resource?
4. Is there anything in the resource that should be emphasized more?
5. Is there anything in the resource that should be emphasized less?
6. Do you think a “notes” section would be helpful?
7. What do you think of the colors or the imagery? Are they helpful or not helpful?
8. Would you recommend this resource to other community workers or use it with your clients (after it has been legally reviewed)? Why or why not?

APPEAL OPTIONS

If you are not eligible or your claim is not accepted

Hire a lawyer or apply for legal aid to get a lawyer to discuss these other appeal options



HIRE A LAWYER

- Apply **within 15 days** to the Refugee Appeal Division of the IRB
- Apply **within 15 days** to the Federal Court for a **judicial review** and a stay of removal
- Apply for a Pre-Removal Risk Assessment (PRRA)
- Apply to stay in Canada for **humanitarian and compassionate grounds**

IMPORTANT TERMS

Federal Court of Canada. The Federal Court of Canada can review decisions related to Immigration. A lawyer must apply for judicial review on your behalf.

Humanitarian and compassionate grounds. Humanitarian and compassionate grounds apply to people with exceptional cases. Humanitarian and compassionate grounds are assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (IRB). The Canadian government agency responsible for making decisions on immigration, and refugee matters.

Judicial review. If the Refugee Protection Division denies your refugee claim, you can ask the Federal Court of Canada to review decisions related to immigration. A lawyer must apply for judicial review on your behalf.

Pre-Removal Risk Assessment (PRRA). If you are facing removal from Canada, you may be eligible for a pre-removal risk assessment to ensure that you are not sent to a country where you would be in danger or at risk of persecution.

Refugee Appeal Division (RAD). The Canadian government agency that decides appeals when the Refugee Protection Division rejects claims for refugee protection.

Stay of removal. A court order stating that a person cannot yet be removed from Canada.

Community support contacts

<p>SOS</p> <p>sosbc.ca contact@sosbc.ca 604-255-1881</p>	<p>MOSAIC</p> <p>mosaicbc.org 604-254-9626</p>	<p>MCC</p> <p>mcccanada.ca (604) 857-0011 (Greater Vancouver) (888) 622-6337 (elsewhere in BC)</p>	<p>Rainbow Refugee</p> <p>rainbowrefugee.com 604-684-5307</p>
<p>VAST</p> <p>vast-vancouver.ca 778-389-6652 (Greater Vancouver) 1-866-393-3133 (elsewhere in BC)</p>	<p>ISS</p> <p>issbc.org 604-684-2561</p>	<p>Ready Tour by Kinbrace Community Society</p> <p>refugeclaim.ca ready@refugeclaim.ca {Need ph number}</p>	

@legalaid legalaid.bc.ca

Making a Refugee Claim

PROCESS OVERVIEW

How to apply for Legal Aid



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How to apply for Legal Aid

Contact Legal Aid BC



Apply at a legal aid location near you or call
1-866-577-2525
604-408-2172 (Greater Vancouver)



Legal Services Society
British Columbia
www.lssbc.ca

How to make a refugee claim

On arriving in Canada

BOARDING DOCUMENTS

If you make a refugee claim as an official land crossing

The **Ready Tour Crossing Agreement** applies.

You'll be asked to fill out a form as a condition of the agreement to apply to port of entry.

Interview with CBSA as you arrive. Eligible to make a refugee claim.

If eligible, you receive immigration documents.

Min or lawyer to apply for Legal Aid for help with filing refugee forms.

Fill out the forms and submit them at the CBSA office within 30 days.

IMPORT DOCUMENTS

If you make a refugee claim at a land crossing

Interview with CBSA as you arrive. Eligible to make a refugee claim.

If eligible, you receive immigration documents.

Min or lawyer to apply for Legal Aid for help with filing refugee forms.

Fill out the forms and submit them at the CBSA office within 30 days.

From within Canada

ASSETTES

If you've received a letter of invitation to visit Canada or a **Canada Border Services (CBSA)** office.

Interview with CBSA as you arrive. Eligible to make a refugee claim.

If eligible, you receive immigration documents.

Min or lawyer to apply for Legal Aid for help with filing refugee forms.

Fill out the forms and submit them at the CBSA office within 30 days.

POST OFFICE

If you make a refugee claim at a **Refugee and Citizenship Canada (RCC)** office.

Get the refugee forms from the RCC office or download them from www.cic.gc.ca

Min or lawyer to apply for Legal Aid for help with filing refugee forms.

Fill out the forms and submit them at the RCC office within 30 days. Receive date for an eligibility interview.

Identify our eligibility interview. If you're interviewed with you if you need one.

If you are not eligible to make a refugee claim, see the back page.

If you are eligible to make a claim

CBSA or RCC sends the date to the Refugee Protection Division (RPD) to get a hearing date.

READY TOUR LASTED TOO

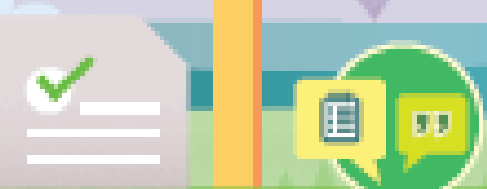
1. Gather evidence supporting your claim.
2. Get a lawyer involved.
3. Submit documents to the RPD.

OR YOU'RE IN OR WITHIN 90 DAYS

- Apply for work permit.

OR YOU'RE IN OR WITHIN 90 DAYS

You must identify all documents and your list of references within 90 days before the hearing date. Submit them earlier if you can.



Take a Ready Tour of the hearing www.fg-eda.ca



Attend your hearing at the RPD.

Claim Accepted

If the Minister does not appeal your acceptance within 30 days, you can apply at the RCC office for permanent residence.

If the Minister appeals your decision, speak to a lawyer to apply for legal aid.

Claim not accepted

Use the back page for our appeal options.

Min or lawyer to apply for legal aid to get a lawyer to discuss them.

NEW START TIPS

Speed of the Application: Consider making your application as early as possible to get your case reviewed quickly. This will take appeal.

Consider the Ready Tour: The Ready Tour provides you with necessary information and helps you understand the process.

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC): The Canadian government agency that provides information and support to refugees and asylum seekers. It is responsible for processing refugee claims.

Eligible supporting partner: This can be a family member who provides you with information, support, and financial assistance. You must be able to identify them and provide their details.

Document collection: Bring your documents to the CBSA office or the RCC office. You can apply for a temporary work permit if you need it.

Ready Tour of the hearing (RT): The Canadian government agency that provides information and support to refugees and asylum seekers.

Ready Tour Crossing Agreement: An agreement between you and the CBSA that you will follow the rules and regulations of the Ready Tour when you arrive in Canada.



Participate in the Canadian Council for Refugees Working Group meetings in Toronto, 28-29 February 2020.

Do you want to be part of efforts to promote rights for refugees? Want to participate in in-depth discussions on pressing issues affecting refugees and immigrants in Canada? Looking for an opportunity to share information and strategies with others from across Canada?

FRIDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2020

9:30am - 5pm: [Inland Protection Working Group](#) meeting

SATURDAY 29 FEBRUARY 2020

9:30am - 5pm: [Overseas Protection & Resettlement Working Group](#) meeting

9:30am - 5pm: [Immigration and Settlement Working Group](#) meeting

Participation and registration: Anyone interested in issues affecting refugees and newcomers to Canada is welcome to participate, especially [CCR members](#); however the meetings are closed to media and government employees. It is free to participate and no registration is required. Lunch is not provided.

Location and how to get there:

All meetings take place at the Salvation Army, 160 Jarvis St., Toronto [Click here](#) for a map of the area.

Draft agendas for the meeting will be available on the [Working Group webpages](#) for [logged-in CCR members](#) and will also be sent out by email.

Can't be in Toronto? Join us for a virtual meeting in advance!

The CCR will be holding a virtual meeting for [CCR members](#) in English on Tuesday 25 February at 2pm Eastern, for those unable to participate in the CCR Working Group meetings in person. [Register online for the English-language virtual meeting.](#)

For logistic questions, contact Chitra Ramsum at cramsum@ccrweb.ca or at (514) 277-7223 ext. 0
For any other questions, contact Sandra Gasana at sgasana@ccrweb.ca or at (514) 277 -7223 ext. 5.

Apply for a Community Arts Grant by March 4

Is your group planning a community-based art project or event?

Apply for our Community Arts Grant, cash grants from \$1,000 - \$15,000 to support a wide variety of opportunities for communities to participate in and produce artistic and cultural work.

The Community Arts program prioritizes opportunities that meaningfully reflect the diversity of Vancouver and these unceded lands, as well as opportunities to enrich cultural life in neighbourhoods and public spaces.

Read through the [Community Arts Grants Information Guide \(PDF\)](#), and contact the cultural planner to discuss your eligibility and gain access to the online application form.

Metha Brown, Cultural Planner (primary contact)

Cultural Services, City of Vancouver

604-673-8411

metha.brown@vancouver.ca

Deadline: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 4pm

This program is open to Vancouver-based, nonprofit organizations, community service co-ops, registered charities, and local First Nation Band Councils; partnerships to support unincorporated groups may be eligible. Applicants do not need to have an arts and cultural mandate to apply.

The Community Arts Grant program is intended to:

- Support communities to experience and create artistic and cultural work.
- Expand equity-seeking communities' access to culturally relevant work.
- Increase opportunities for equity-seeking groups to explore and share their cultural heritage.
- Offer co-creative projects between communities and artists or cultural practitioners.
- Amplify cultural life throughout Vancouver neighborhoods, communities and public spaces.
- Build and strengthen connections across and between diverse communities.

The Community Arts Grant supports a variety of activities including:

- Community-engaged art projects.
- Events, festivals, celebrations and parades.
- Artist residency within a neighbourhood or community.
- Small-scale public art projects.

[Learn More](#)

2020 Cultural Learning and Sharing Grant Program

On behalf of the **Cultural Services grants team:**

Do you know of arts or cultural leaders or non-profit organizations planning residencies, internships, mentorships, workshops, courses, research, organizational planning, gatherings, conferences, or other self-determined learning opportunities?

This program provides up to \$20,000 to individuals (artists and cultural leaders) and non-profit arts and cultural organizations to access or deliver learning opportunities that will build and strengthen skills, knowledge, relationships, and experience in order to enhance individual, organizational, or sectoral practices. The program is open to a wide array of learning methods and is intended to support diverse contributors and leaders in ways that build knowledge and resources as well as strengthen communities of practice.

Registered non-profit societies, registered community service co-ops, registered charities, First Nations Band Councils on whose unceded traditional homelands Vancouver sits are eligible to apply. Vancouver-based established artists and cultural leaders actively working in the local arts and culture non-profit sector can apply in partnership with an eligible organization as described above.

Applications can be received at any time in advance of these deadlines throughout the year:

- Up to February 7th (funds allocated in mid-April)
- Up to April 10th (funds allocated in mid-June)
- Up to May 1st (funds allocated in late-June)
- Up to Aug. 7th (funds allocated in mid-Oct.)
- Up to Oct. 9th (funds allocated in mid-Dec.)

More information: <https://vancouver.ca/files/cov/learning-and-sharing-program-information-guide.pdf>

Questions? Contact Amarshi, Aliyah <aliyah.amarshi@vancouver.ca>
or Masters, Cheryl <cheryl.masters@vancouver.ca>

Metha Brown, Cultural Planner

Cultural Services, City of Vancouver, metha.brown@vancouver.ca

604.673.8411 cell: 604.679.5179

Events going on in Burnaby this month...



STARTING YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Entrepreneurship for Newcomers 2020



FREE full day conference on starting your own business

- Learn about successes and challenges from a variety of entrepreneurs
- Start and grow a business in Canada
- Receive advice from experts

Date: February 12, 2020 | Time: 8:10 – 2:30 pm
 Location: Ismaili Centre - 4010 Canada Way, Burnaby

Light breakfast and lunch will be served

Please register at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/EmploymentForum2020>



BURNABY TOGETHER?

COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

What do you really think?
 Join a provocative forum on how communities are changing

What now?
 Share your views on the impact of global migration to Burnaby

Date: February 26, 2020
 Time: 6:00 – 8:00 pm
 Location: Burnaby Neighbourhood House
 4460 Beresford St., Burnaby, BC
 (beside Metrotown Skytrain Station)






PARENTING LEARNING EVENT 2020

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2020 | 8:30 AM - 4 PM
 BYRNE CREEK COMMUNITY SCHOOL
 BURNABY, BC

RETOOL . RECONNECT . RECHARGE .




A day dedicated to learning about the mental and physical well-being of children. Topics of expert presentations include school/home life balance, understanding anxiety and brain development, nutrition for thriving bodies, smart screen habits and parenting with Indigenous perspective.

- Registration includes:
- 2 plenary and 5 sessions of evidence-based information and practical tips presented by experts,
 - displays and contacts for community resources and services,
 - snacks and a healthy lunch, and
 - low-cost on-site child-minding, if required

SAVE WITH EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

Space is limited, book before Jan.31st

\$75 for 1 registration
\$125 for 2 registrations

- **RETOOL** with new ideas and practical tips for everyday parenting decision
- **RECONNECT** with community resources for families, and with other parents
- **RECHARGE** with more knowledge and more confidence



WWW.BFLGROWSCOMMUNITY.ORG

