



# Refugee Transitions

## Annual Report 2010



**Our mission** is to assist refugee and immigrant families in becoming self-sufficient in the United States by providing services to help them attain the English language, life, job and academic skills they need to succeed in their new communities.

### Letter from Laura Vaudreuil, Executive Director



Thanks to you, 2010 was another banner year for RT. In the face of a severe economic recession, we've increased our revenues and the number of people we serve. I give my most heartfelt thanks to all of you – to our clients whose courage and determination inspire me every day, to our supporters for your generous investments in our work, and to our volunteers for your tireless devotion to our students.

Our home-based tutoring program, in its 28th year, prioritizes the most vulnerable – individuals forced to leave their homes due to war or persecution, those with physical disabilities, single parents, adults and children who never attended formal schooling in their home countries and are illiterate in their native languages. Last year, RT expanded its leadership training program to empower more refugee youth and adults to help others in their communities navigate life in the U.S. by providing interpretation services and cultural orientation, added a summer academic enrichment camp for refugee youth in the South Bay, and continued its summer camp in San Francisco's Presidio for the third year in a row. In this report, you'll hear the voices of Dr. Shah Gurung, one of our Community Navigator Interns; Kopila, one of our youth students; and Vijay Venugopal, an RT volunteer and donor.

This kind of growth is made possible by you – the community of supporters that provided increased gifts of time, money and energy that fuel our efforts to empower refugees and immigrants to find greater happiness and self-sufficiency. With your continued support, together we can make an even greater impact in the lives of these newcomers who are striving to thrive in the Bay Area.

*Laura Vaudreuil*  
Laura Vaudreuil

Executive Director, Refugee Transitions

*Help the community...change your world*

# Programs

RT's programs are guided by the conviction that the acquisition of English language and literacy skills is fundamental to overcoming the distinct challenges facing our clients. With a small staff and over 325 volunteers, we provided individualized, weekly on-site and home-based assistance to over 850 refugees and immigrants in 2010. Our main programs are all located in San Francisco, Alameda and Santa Clara Counties.

**English Language/Civics Education and Orientation Program:** Helps refugee and immigrant adults develop the skills they need to improve their employment options, access vital community resources, and become self-sufficient. This program provides weekly **home-based ESL and civics instruction, citizenship preparation, on-site English language classes**, and staff-directed **family support services** to 412 adults. We've augmented this program to provide leadership training to adult **Refugee Community Navigator Interns** who provide additional cultural orientation and support for newly arrived refugees.

**Bridge-2-Success Youth Development Program:** Empowers 455 youth in local refugee and immigrant communities by providing the help and opportunities they need to succeed academically and develop leadership skills. Trained volunteers provide weekly **tutoring and mentoring** for youth. Staff offer **case management services** to ensure that youth graduate from high school and continue their education. RT also coordinates **on-site after-school tutoring programs** at Oakland and San Francisco International High Schools. Additionally, RT's **Refugee Youth Leadership Corps** provides leadership training for refugee youth to enable them to help their peers navigate the educational system. Our **summer academic and enrichment camps** in the Presidio of San Francisco and the South Bay provide refugee youth with opportunities to improve their English, and enjoy soccer, singing and other fun learning activities.

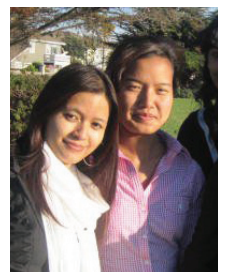


"Working as a Community Navigator Intern has enabled me to know more about my fellow community people and helped me to learn more about the existing systems of this country, and extending help to the community people in whatever manner gives me immense relief and satisfaction. The various activities undertaken by Refugee Transitions to help the refugee community including social adjustment and adult literacy programs are highly commendable and I look forward to continue working with Refugee Transitions."

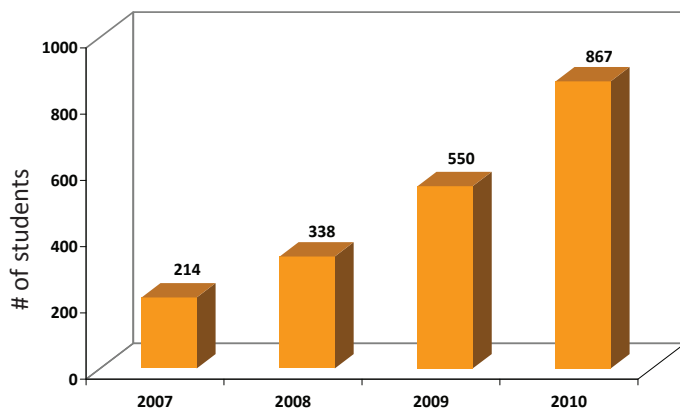
— Dr. Shah Gurung, RT Community Navigator Intern

"I finished all my credits at Oakland International High School but still need to pass the English California High School Exit Exam. My tutor got me books and helped me learn how to find the answers and how to read the questions and paragraphs so I could understand clearly. I am taking the California High School Exit Exam next week and I feel ready!"

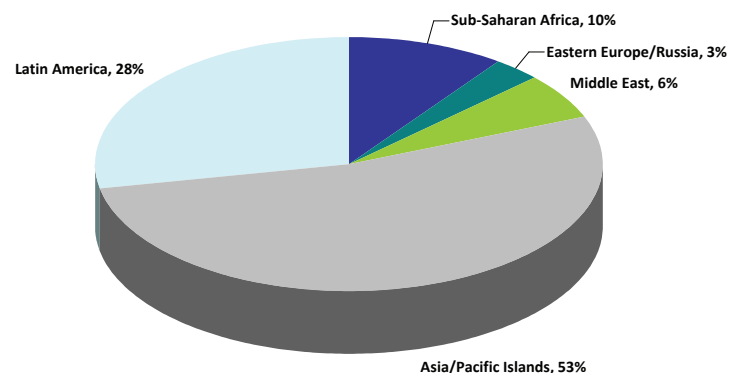
— Kopila, age 18, RT Youth Student



Number of Clients 2007 – 2010



RT Clients by Region of Origin



# 2010 Program Growth and Highlights

**Increased the number of clients served** from 550 in 2009 to **867 in 2010**.

**Increased the number of volunteers** providing individualized home-based tutoring to **338 in 2010**.

**Increased agency revenue by 43%** in the past three years, and **increased the number of clients served by 156%**.

**Ensured excellent outcomes in our youth tutoring program:** The average GPA of the students who came regularly to our after-school tutoring program at Oakland International High School was **3.38, compared to the school average of 2.91**.

**Exceeded state goals:** RT's adult students who read at the literacy to beginning levels – our target population – earn post-test scores that exceed California Department of Education performance goals by an **average of 20%**. Helping students at these levels succeed is critical to ensuring that they are on track for job certification and training programs.

**Increased the number of community-based classes** from one to four by developing partnerships with Sanchez and Bryant Elementary Schools in San Francisco and United for Success Academy in Oakland. Three of these ESL classes **provide child care** for parents with toddlers and infants.

**Increased our network of support for 100+ newly arrived refugees** with very limited English proficiency through RT's leadership training program, which **empowered 22 paid refugee interns** to provide interpretation and cultural orientation for their refugee communities.

**Launched a brand new two-week summer academic and enrichment camp** for refugee youth in the South Bay.

**Relocated our South Bay office** to the United Way Building in San Jose with a consortium of five other nonprofits serving refugees and immigrants.

## 2010 Financial Summary

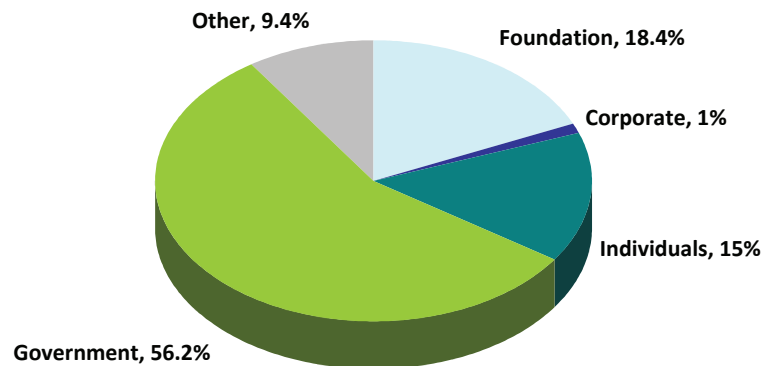
### Statement of Financial Position\*

As of December 31, 2010

Bank Accounts	\$173,590
Accounts Receivable	\$172,325
Other Current Assets	\$9,362
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$355,277</b>
Accounts Payable	\$15,345
Other Liabilities	\$9,106
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$24,251</b>
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$330,826</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$355,277</b>

\*unaudited numbers

### 2010 Revenues (Total: \$484,362)



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*"I've been involved for so long because of how unique and effective RT is. Due to its lean structure and responsible management, RT has managed to expand its services to six sites and three counties at a time when most organizations are cutting back and withdrawing their services." — Marissa Escalante, RT Board Member and Volunteer*



# A huge THANK YOU to our generous supporters...

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Roll Giving

\*denotes matching gift program

"More than three years after getting to know intimately how RT works, I maintain the greatest admiration at the nobility of their mission and how simple, transparent and effective an organization they are. I find myself always looking for additional ways to support such a dedicated organization engaged in so worthy a cause."

— Vijay Venugopal, RT Donor and Volunteer



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