



Fourteen years ago 28-year-old Achom Dimo was running for his life in war-torn Sudan. Today he's helping others run, but this time for their team, their country and themselves.

A university student and youth leader, Achom is the driving force behind the South Sudanese soccer tournament which is sponsored by the NSW Community Relations Commission.

"We're keeping them busy, keeping them away from problems," Mr Dimo explains.

"Sport is a good thing you can do in Australia. There are so many opportunities here, but when we come to this country we don't know where to go.

"Soccer's encouraged them to get involved in other things, to get an idea of what goes on in this country.

"It's social networking, a place to learn from each other and to start to build relationships with other Australians.

"Now we have people of all backgrounds getting involved, other Africans, guys from the Middle East – it's

building peace and harmony among themselves," he says.

The competition is sponsored by St Anthony's and is also supported by the NSW Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors (STARTTS). They are looking for more commercial supporters for their competition.