

Our distinguished keynote speaker will be  
**Dr. Lee Ann De Reus,**  
Associate Professor of Human Development and Family Studies at Penn State  
Altoona,  
addressing the theme of  
**"Improving Women's Lives Around the World:  
Surviving the Refugee Camps of Darfur, Chad, and Congo"**

**More on Dr. Lee Ann De Reus:**

In 2007 Dr. De Reus traveled to a Sudanese refugee camp in Chad where she spoke with Darfuri women who were genocide survivors. This experience led her to organize a Central Pennsylvania Chapter of Save Darfur as well as to found an organization called Students for Darfur. Contributions raised through Save Darfur are used to provide Solar Box Cookers for women in the refugee camps. These solar cookers enable women to cook for their families without the necessity for them to leave the safety of the camp to collect firewood. Dr. De Reus has received the Carl Wilkins Fellowship for her efforts to give voice to the survivors of genocide in Darfur. She has also received the Women in Leadership Award of the Penn State Commission for Women in 2003, The Spirit of Internationalization Award in 2008, and the Atherton Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2003. For more on Dr. De Reus, please see [http://conversations.psu.edu/episodes/leeann\\_dereus](http://conversations.psu.edu/episodes/leeann_dereus).

**More on Solar Cookers:**

Solar cookers not only protect women and girls from rape and other brutal attacks, but also protect trees in the fragile environments that surround the refugee camps. Dr. De Reus works closely with the grassroots organization Jewish World Watch (JWW, [www.jewishworldwatch.org](http://www.jewishworldwatch.org)), which is committed to preventing genocide and providing refugee relief. The JWW **Solar Cooker Project** provides the raw materials for the production of the solar cookers; women in the camp are paid to assemble the cookers and train each family in the camp in their use. Currently the project is functioning in three of the twelve refugee camps in Chad, with plans to expand. **Each donation of \$30 allows JWW to support one refugee family by providing two solar cookers, plus the necessary accessories and training.**

For a six-minute video see <http://www.jewishworldwatch.org/refugeerelief/womenofiridimi.html>

For a fact sheet see

[http://www.jewishworldwatch.org/refugeerelief/pdfs/JWW\\_FactSheet\\_Mar09\\_Ir.pdf](http://www.jewishworldwatch.org/refugeerelief/pdfs/JWW_FactSheet_Mar09_Ir.pdf)

For an on-line donation form see

<http://www.jewishworldwatch.org/donate/solarcookerproject.html>

We encourage you and your members, colleagues, friends, family and neighbors to contribute to improving women's lives around the world and to donate solar cookers through JWW. Please distribute this information widely -- the more people we can reach in our community, the more girls and women we can save from rape and assault.