

# Miami Country Day School

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## MEDIA ADVISORY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### STUDENTS SEND SOLAR OVENS TO AFGHAN REFUGEES

*Thousands to be fed from latest solar technology*

**Miami** – Responding to President Bush’s call for assistance for the people of Afghanistan, students at Miami Country Day School are using the proceeds from their annual plant sale to help send large solar ovens to aid Afghan refugees. Local Rotary clubs are matching the amount raised and purchasing the SunOvens.

This project is part of a global educational network called iEARN (International Education and Resource Network), which enables students to collaborate on educational projects using the Internet and other technologies. In response to the events of September 11, iEARN has brought together 10 organizations that can assist students and teachers in the United States to interact with those in predominantly Muslim countries. This consortium is called the Friendship Through Education, which was launched by President Bush and Secretary of Education, Rod Paige, on October 25<sup>th</sup>.

With the refugee crisis growing in Afghanistan and Pakistan, thousands of families in border camps are suffering from terrible weather conditions and lack of food. Fuel, such as wood and brush, is very scarce in the makeshift refugee camps. This type of solar oven, produced by Sun Ovens, can feed up to 2,000 people a day on the abundant supply of sunshine in Afghanistan.

**Who:** Students grades K-5 from Miami Country Day School, Rowena Gerber, Director of the Abess Center for Environmental Studies at MCDS, and members of Rotary clubs throughout South Florida..

**What:** Students, teachers and Rotary Club members meet to celebrate the shipment of solar ovens to refugees in Afghanistan and share plans for more fundraising. The students will give the Rotarians hands-on demonstrations about how to build and cook with a solar cooker, how to make infused oils and vinegars with herbs from their edible classroom garden.

**When:** Friday, March 8, at 1 PM.

**Where:** Miami Country Day School, located at 601 NE 107<sup>th</sup> Street, Miami.

**Relevant websites:**

[www.miamicountryday.org/aces](http://www.miamicountryday.org/aces)

[www.sunoven.com/rotary.htm](http://www.sunoven.com/rotary.htm)

[www.sunoven.com/villager.htm](http://www.sunoven.com/villager.htm)

[www.iearn.org](http://www.iearn.org)

[www.solutions-site.org/newsletter/2001/winter/afghanistan.htm](http://www.solutions-site.org/newsletter/2001/winter/afghanistan.htm)