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# WESTWORD

## WEB EXCLUSIVES

### Amnesty International hopes to raise school awareness Group to hold fundraiser March 13

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In hopes of raising awareness of the genocide in Darfur, Sudan, Amnesty International will hold a fundraiser 3:30-7 p.m., Friday, March 13, in the student commons.

The event will include live music, food and information on the crisis in Darfur.

Through the event, Amnesty International's sponsor Dana DesJardins and her group of activists hope to send a positive message to the student body.

"We are part of a larger world community, and what happens in Skokie can affect what happens around the world," DesJardins said.

Amnesty International will raise money to buy solar cookers for women in Darfur, helping families to become more independent.

The event also will provide a chance for students to sign postcards expressing their concern about the crisis. These postcards will be sent to President Barak Obama before he meets with the United Nations to discuss solutions to the ongoing genocide in the region.

DesJardins believes that students' voices are extremely important.

"When teenagers speak in numbers, people listen. So many teenagers concern themselves with their own lives that when kids actually extend an effort, politicians pay attention," DesJardins added.

Junior Fatima Elahi, an active member of Amnesty International, hopes that through the fundraiser, "the entire school can help raise money for the genocide in Darfur."

Elahi believes that is important for students to come out and support the cause. "Together, the student body can make a difference," Elahi said.

