

# **THE WOMEN'S COMMISSION IN ACTION**

## **2008 ACHIEVEMENTS**

### **TO KEEP REFUGEE WOMEN AND CHILDREN SAFE:**

- We spearheaded an [international search](#) with the UN and other humanitarian partners to find safer and sustainable alternatives to firewood. In December we are hosting the first-ever [international conference](#) to bring together the developers, users and funders of new cooking technologies.
- Our 2007 report, *[Locking Up Family Values: The Detention of Immigrant Families](#)*, resulted in significant improvements in 2008 at the largest U.S. family detention center. We will soon release a groundbreaking report on the situation and conditions of unaccompanied immigrant children held in U.S. detention.

### **TO ENSURE THAT REFUGEE WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE HEALTHY:**

- [We visited Kenya](#) in April in the wake of the post-election violence and advocated that women displaced by violence must receive life-saving reproductive health services, including emergency obstetric care and care for survivors of rape.
- With partner organizations, we [advocated](#) to governments, United Nations agencies and U.S.-based foundations for improved reproductive health policies and increased global funding.

### **TO HELP REFUGEE WOMEN AND YOUTH BECOME SELF-RELIANT:**

- We released the [first global study](#) on problems faced by refugees with physical and mental disabilities, based on six months of research and field studies in five countries. A [companion resource kit](#) guides on-the-ground workers to promote access to services for those in need.
- We partnered with Columbia University's School for International and Public Affairs to improve [vocational training programs](#) for youth in northern Uganda. We jointly developed two sets of tools: one to ensure that vocational training programs are [linked to market needs](#); the other to [enable young people](#) to conduct their own market assessments.

To learn more about our plans for 2009—OUR 20<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY YEAR—and to read the reports mentioned above, visit [womenscommission.org](http://womenscommission.org).