



OAKLAND ATHLETICS

Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 16, 2010

A's Raise \$42,000 in Fundraising Effort for Haiti Victims **UNICEF and Doctors Without Borders Received \$21,000 Each**

OAKLAND, Calif. —The A's Community Fund Haitian Relief efforts raised \$42,000 to aid Haitian earthquake victims. A's fans raised \$22,000 and the Oakland Athletics contributed another \$20,000. UNICEF and Doctors Without Borders, two agencies that are playing a vital role in on-the-ground relief efforts in Haiti, received approximately \$21,000 each from the A's Community Fund.

Before tonight's game versus the Baltimore Orioles, the A's will be honoring Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School of Berkeley as the largest fundraising contributor with a donation of \$4,416.76. Hundreds of MLK students will be attending tonight's game. The Oakland Zoo has also recognized the school by donating 950 family "4-pack" zoo passes to the students.

Seventh-grader Molly Wampler, who joined student council leaders and volunteers as part of the school's initiative, "Be The Change," will be throwing out the ceremonial first pitch. She was selected by the faculty and staff of MLK Jr. Middle School as an outstanding student who oversaw the donations on behalf of the school. Four students, Maya Wong, Sophia Olaya-Hermes, Hope Amador, and Maria MacArdle, have been invited as guests of the A's to attend batting practice this evening.

Immediately after the first earthquake occurred, MLK Jr. Middle School Principal Jason Lustig called an all-school assembly where he asked students to each donate \$2, which is the average daily subsistence level for Haitians. The students took the principal's challenge and, in fact, felt that they could do better. As part of the "Be The Change" initiative, they challenged students to *double* their donations to \$4 per person. Students raised money through unique methods: recording a donation request message for the school's phone blast list to call every student home; holding garage and bake sales at their homes; babysitting; and using their personal allowances to contribute more money to the fundraiser. Students also made and displayed posters around campus and created stickers with the BTC logo and the Haitian flag, which were distributed to students who donated.

"The Oakland A's would like to thank all fans who donated their hard-earned money to help support a greater cause," said Detra Paige, A's Director of Community Relations. "The A's are proud to be a part of the Haitian Earthquake Relief Effort and are honored to be able to recognize the students of Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School for their commitment to the fundraiser and going above and beyond the call of duty to help others. The A's are thankful to all fans, and especially these students, for their dedication to community service."

For those seeking more information on UNICEF and Doctors Without Borders, here are links to both non-profit organizations:

- www.unicef.org
- www.doctorswithoutborders.org

The A's fundraising effort is part of Major League Baseball's overall pledge to contribute \$1 million toward the Haitian Earthquake relief effort. Donations from MLB, its 30 clubs, MLB Network and MLB.com, will go toward aiding victims by providing necessary supplies to assist with recovery efforts, including clean water and sanitation, medical supplies and temporary shelter.

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