



For Immediate Release

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Major League Baseball Players and Volunteers of America Join Forces to Help Hurricane Survivors in Mississippi and Alabama

Volunteers of America and the Major League Baseball Players Trust are working together to provide disaster relief to hurricane survivors in Mississippi and Alabama in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. LaTroy Hawkins, free agent relief pitcher, and right fielders Jacque Jones of the Chicago Cubs and Matt Lawton, a free agent, will present Volunteers of America with an \$80,000 check to support its mobile medical clinic for hurricane survivors in Mississippi and Alabama on Wednesday, December 13 in Gulfport, Mississippi. The Major League baseball players will greet and register patients at the clinic with the goal of inspiring others to help hurricane survivors by volunteering or donating supplies. This is the second year that Major League baseball players have donated their time and resources to help Volunteers of America with its long-term goal of rebuilding the hurricane ravaged communities in the Gulf Coast.

Managed by Volunteers of America's Southeast affiliate, the mobile medical clinic was created one week after Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast to provide emergency medical assistance to survivors. To date, the clinic has served over 15,000 people who are still fighting for survival in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Date: Wednesday, December 13

Time: 12:30 p.m.

Location: Volunteers of America's Mobile Medical Clinic, 1909 East Pass Road, Gulfport, Mississippi

Participating: LaTroy Hawkins, free agent relief pitcher and most recently a member of the Baltimore Orioles; Jacque Jones, right fielder for the Chicago Cubs; Matt Lawton, a Gulfport native and free agent right fielder; and Wallace Davis, president and chief executive officer, Volunteers of America Southeast.

The Major League Baseball Players Trust partnered with Volunteers of America in 2002 to promote the nurturing and well-being of America's children and their families. The partnership features the personal involvement of Major League baseball players and their families with a variety of programs conducted by Volunteers of America throughout the United States. For more information about the Major League Baseball Players Trust, visit www.MLBPLAYERS.com.

Volunteers of America is a national, nonprofit, faith-based organization dedicated to helping those in need rebuild their lives and reach their full potential. Through thousands of human service programs, including housing and healthcare, Volunteers of America helps nearly 2 million people in over 400 communities. Since 1896, our ministry of service has supported and empowered America's most vulnerable groups, including at-risk youth, the frail elderly, men and women returning from prison, homeless individuals and families, people with disabilities, and those recovering from addictions. Our work touches the mind, body, heart-and ultimately the spirit-of those we serve, integrating our deep compassion with highly effective programs and services. For more information about Volunteers of America, visit www.VolunteersofAmerica.org.