**Turn Two** for youth™









# Thank you supporters!

Friends of Turn Two for Youth,

Turn Two for Youth continues to help underserved youth find positive influences and build new relationships through the games of baseball and softball. Thanks to our supporting partners, coaches, ambassadors and baseball families everywhere, we have reached thousands of kids.

Baseball and Softball are games that help build character. We remain motivated and excited about passing on the game to kids that might previously not had the chance to play. We also are inspired by thousands of coaches who tirelessly serve as community leaders and mentors to so many players.

This impact report summarizes our achievements and recognizes the hard work and effort put in by so many volunteers. Most importantly, we want to say thank you for joining our mission and your amazing contribution to our success. We are making a difference and it could not be achieved without your support.

Sincerely,

William F. "Billy" Owens, Jr.

Eric O. Smith

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**Turn Two** for youth™

**BY THE NUMBERS 2015-2022** 

## **Our Mission**

The Turn Two for Youth mission runs on two parallel tracks. We build bridges for the disadvantaged by putting kids under the mentorship of a good coach. We also teach social responsibility to the fortunate who have the means to play and are looking for a way to give back to the game they love.

## **Our Story**

Turn Two for Youth is a charitable organization formed to collect baseball equipment and distribute it to active children who need a little help. It all started as a grassroots effort when two good friends and their families were vacationing in the Turk Islands and Caicos. Billy Owens and Eric Smith were visiting with a youth baseball coach there and saw that his players didn't have the equipment they needed to play ball. They were sharing torn-up gloves and making due with makeshift equipment. This disheartened the two men and they decided to do something about it.

When Billy and Eric returned home, they organized a grassroots collection drive in their hometown of Charlotte, NC where baseball families supported the vision with great enthusiasm. Bats, gloves, uniforms, catcher's equipment, batting tees and an assortment of other baseball necessities were collected at local leagues and schools. Once the gear was ready to go, Billy and Eric delivered on a promise they made to that coach and shipped a full seaboard container to the Turk Islands.

That grassroots campaign became the model for a more formal non-profit organization. Turn Two for Youth now collects gear throughout the United States from teams, coaches, players and families, all who want to give back to the game they love. The equipment is cleaned, refurbished and then shipped to credible organizations for distribution.

100,000 **KIDS BENEFITED FROM TURN TWO FOR YOUTH INITIATIVES** NON-PROFITS IMPACTED

## **Our Path**





Smith and Owens see a need in the Turk Islands



#### February 2012

Smith and Owens host a local equipment drive in Charlotte, NC



#### **May 2012**

Smith and Owens ship a seaboard container of gear to the Turk Islands



#### **June 2014**

Bo Owens travels to the Dominican Republic to play ball



#### **Sept. 2014**

Smith and Owens host a second local equipment drive in Charlotte, NC



#### Nov. 2014

Smith and Owens partner with MLB in Dominican Republic to distribute gear



#### **December 2017**

19 tons of gear shipped inside this calendar year



#### October 2017

FedEx announces shipping grants for Turn Two for Youth



#### January 2017

ABCA announces Turn Two for Youth as its official charity



#### **December 2016**

6 tons of gear shipped inside this calendar year



#### March 2015

Turn Two for Youth organizes as a 501 c 3 non-profit charity



#### January 2015

Smith and Owens ship a seaboard container of gear to MLB in the Dominican Republic



#### **January 2018**

Turn Two for Youth receives Meritorious Service Award from ABCA



#### **July 2018**

Turn Two for youth receives Community Hero Award from Connect Sports



#### December 2019

34 tons of gear shipped inside this calendar year



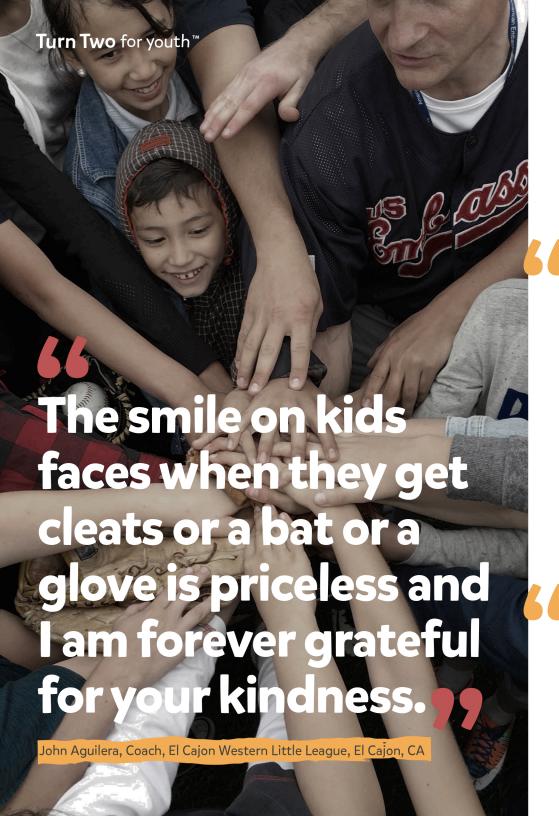
#### August 2020

Rapsodo donates 10% of sales, \$51,000 to Turn Two for Youth



#### **December 2021**

39 tons of gear shipped inside this calendar year



## Getting back on the field.

"Oh my goodness! Thank you so very much! I was able to go through a couple of boxes and what you sent was amazing! The batting helmets and catchers gear is greatly appreciated and should help get us back on the field sooner than expected!"

#### Stephany Witt

Lake Whales Little League Florida after Hurricane Irma

# Rewarding experience.

Working with Turn Two for Youth through the ABCA to help out a local program is crazy rewarding. And I can't explain how proud it makes me to be a loyal member.

#### Troy Blakely

Coach

Louisville, KY and ABCA Member

## **Our Reach**

#### **Supporting school programs**

Turn Two for Youth receives several requests each year from coaches or athletic directors wanting to start or revive a baseball or softball programs. Research concludes that incorporating sports into a young person's life directly enhance academic performance, increased concentration, better memory, more effective problem solving, and an improved mood – all benefits that will extend to the classroom.

#### **Disaster relief**

When disaster strikes, baseball and softball help to restore a sense of normalcy. It doesn't matter if it's a hurricane blowing through the Caribbean or a pandemic, families suffer during these times. And with all the worries families have when disaster strikes, playing ball shouldn't be one of them. That's why Turn Two for Youth has always been there for families looking to get kids back on the field.

#### Small, rural communities

Turn Two for Youth engages with coaches who work in economically challenged areas. Many families in rural communities can barely afford the basic necessities much less the equipment they need to play the game. Our impact has been felt in Alabama, Arizona, California, Georgia, Kentucky, Michigan, Oregon, and West Virgina. When outfitted with our gear, these coaches can encourage youth to participate who might not have the considered otherwise.

#### Innercity, underserved communities

Focusing on the social, cultural and economic gap in our innercities is an important component of the Turn Two for Youth mission. The games of baseball and softball help to close the gap as everyone on the field is equal. Working with Innercity programs and even police departments, Turn Two for Youth delivers the equipment that enables youth to engage.

#### International, poverty-stricken communities

Turn Two for Youth's roots began with building partnerships and delivering gear to international, poverty-stricken communities. Whether working with ministries or the American Baseball Coaches Association, we support organizations dedicated to using baseball and softball's popularity as a vehicle to promote positive play, education, civic pride and humanitarian values.

### **Our Partners**



The ABCA Board of Directors voted Turn Two for Youth as its official charitable organization in the Fall of 2016.



FedEx Cares awarded its first in-kind shipping grant to Turn Two for Youth in 2017 and has awarded a total of three continuous grants.









**Turn Two** for youth™ **Turn Two** for youth™

How we help kids play ball

Average gear cost

\$40 Helmet

\$195 Bat

\$35 Jersey

\$95 Glove

\$40 Pants

\$70 Cleats

\$475

TURN TWO FOR YOUTH CAN OUTFIT A KID FOR

\$35

# WAYS TO GIVE

**General Donations** 

**Annual Gifts** 

**Corporate Sponsorship** 

**In-Kind Donations** 

**Legacy Gifts** 

### WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

Become an Ambassador

Run a drive

**General Volunteer** 

Internship

**Committee Membership** 



# Every kid deserves a glove

Turn Two for Youth partners,

Turn Two for Youth has evolved quickly over the past few years thanks to the amazing support we've received from our partners. We are extremely proud to be a part of this special network of organizations and appreciate the ongoing commitment that we collectively share.

Special thanks go to the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) for endorsing Turn Two for Youth as their official charity, but more importantly for engaging the ABCA network which has helped us source gear and identify needs. Special thanks also to Brooks Equipment and FedEx for storage and shipping considerations, and to all our partners who have contributed in many significant ways.

We have achieved tremendous success considering how many we have served but there is still more work ahead. Just as one kid outgrows his gear, another kid is growing into a need. Our obligation to the game is continuous, never ending. As long as kids continue to grow, we will be here to make sure they have a chance to play.

Sincerely,

C. Vincent Chelena Executive Director



# turn2foryouth.com

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/turn2foryouth

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