



FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY

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MLB Players Partner with Fans to Strike Out Poverty Across Globe

Nine Players Combine Efforts to Bring Drinking Water and Crisis Relief to Hardest Places

PHOENIX, AZ (March 28, 2019) – For many across the world, access to some of life’s most basic needs, like clean water and a nutritious meal, can be near impossible to come by. With that in mind, Major League Baseball (MLB) players have teamed up with [Food for the Hungry](#) (FH), a global humanitarian organization serving the vulnerable in over 20 countries, to raise money through the Striking Out Poverty campaign, in an effort to meet the most urgent needs in some of the poorest communities in the world.

As the 2019 MLB season kicks off, nine players from four different MLB teams have committed to a variety of *Striking Out Poverty* projects and encourage fans to support them throughout the season to raise the necessary funds to meet their goals. These projects range from providing medical care to Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, building school classrooms and providing clean water in Rwanda, providing emergency response to the current crisis in Venezuela and building baseball fields and implementing additional water filtration systems in the Dominican Republic.

“Opening day doesn’t just mark the first day of the baseball season—it also marks the beginning of new hope for so many underserved communities,” says Milam Byers, Director of Sports Partnerships at Food for the Hungry. “We are excited to embark on our third year of changing lives, providing resources and looking past the scoreboard with the help of these players and their fans.”

Baseball fans can support these projects and their favorite players by visiting www.pledgeit.org/team/sop-2019 or www.bigleagueimpact.org and clicking on the player’s picture to pledge for home runs, base steals, and learn more. In addition, Striking Out Poverty and Big League Impact will host various public events throughout the year to raise the necessary funds for these communities.

Last year, Striking Out Poverty raised over \$218,000 for some of the most underserved communities in the world. Multiple projects were completely funded in the Dominican Republic including newly built baseball fields, the implementation of water infrastructure and purification systems, an agricultural training program, and the completion of a multi-year cocoa farming project that serves five communities in the Dominican Republic. In addition to that, Striking Out Poverty provided Syrian refugee families with enough diapers and milk to last a year.

The following MLB players are participating in Striking Out Poverty this year: **Arizona Diamondbacks** Nick Ahmed and Luke Weaver; **Milwaukee Brewers** Chase Anderson and Brent Suter; **Seattle Mariners** Dee Gordon and Sam Tuivailala; and **St. Louis Cardinals** Michael Wacha, Michael Mayers, Jack Flaherty.

About Striking Out Poverty

Striking Out Poverty is an initiative of Food for the Hungry and Big League Impact connecting Major League Baseball players and fans to help end poverty around the world. Through the Striking Out Poverty program, Food for the Hungry is working to bring an end to extreme poverty. FH has worked since 1971 to serve the most vulnerable people on earth through purposeful relief and development.

They offer access to life-changing resources such as clean water, medical aid, food, equal educational opportunities to girls and boys, vocational training and empowerment amid unimaginable hardships. For more information visit www.strikingoutpoverty.com and fh.org.

About Food for the Hungry

Food for the Hungry is a Christian humanitarian organization ending all forms of human poverty by providing life-changing development programs, disaster relief, and advocacy. Since 1971, Food for the Hungry has been going into the world's hardest places with an exit strategy: to respond to human suffering and graduate communities of extreme poverty into self-sustainability, all within a decade. By creating context-specific solutions in education, agriculture, health, livelihood, clean water, and conflict risk reduction, the nonprofit focuses on transformational development, investing in children as the key to lift entire communities out of poverty. With 98% of staff working in their country of origin, Food for the Hungry works side-by-side with local leaders, churches, and families to implement innovative solutions. The organization currently serves more than 12.7 million people in over 20 countries worldwide. For more information, follow [@food4thehungry](https://twitter.com/food4thehungry) or visit www.fh.org.

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