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## Food for the Hungry is Striking Out Poverty in the Dominican Republic

Baseball Fans, Players and Teams Coming Together to End Poverty in Nine Communities

**PHOENIX (April 5, 2016)** – <u>Food for the Hungry</u> is excited to announce its <u>Striking Out Poverty</u> campaign in partnership with American baseball teams, players and fans to provide direct relief and community-building services in nine of the most vulnerable communities in the Dominican Republic.

"Many of our talented U.S. baseball players are originally from the Dominican Republic (DR) where baseball is equated with hope," said Food for the Hungry CEO Gary Edmonds. "By bringing together generous players and fans in the United States, we can offer tangible hope and help to those who need it the most. This is such a natural partnership and we are thrilled to see the passion of baseball help strike out poverty in some of the most impoverished neighborhoods in the DR."

Striking Out Poverty encompasses nine innings with each inning focused on providing the major need for one community in the DR. For example, the first inning seeks to raise funds for the urgent needs in Mirador such as water purification, building a community center and funding a local baseball program that would give children the opportunity for structured play as well as to be in a safe environment with caring adults who want to invest in them. Athletes Brand, a Phoenix-based athletic wear company with a business model of helping others has agreed to raise money through various campaigns, events and fundraising throughout the 2016 baseball season. This commitment to fund the first inning will result in \$83,000 going to the residents of Mirador so they will now have basic necessities.

Fans can help make Striking Out Poverty a success by donating directly at <a href="www.strikingoutpoverty.com">www.strikingoutpoverty.com</a>. Additional opportunities for fans to show their support will be announced as the campaign continues.

"We want to see baseball end poverty in the Dominican Republic," said Edmonds. "As the first pitch of this baseball season is about to be thrown out, I know we can make a major difference in thousands of lives this year."

\*VISUALS—High-resolution photographs and raw video of American baseball players visiting communities where Food for the Hungry is currently helping end poverty in the Dominican Republic is available upon request by contacting Suzanne Treviño at 602-618-7857.

## **About Food for the Hungry**

Founded in 1971, Food for the Hungry provides emergency relief and long-term development programs with operations in more than 20 countries, seeking to end all forms of human poverty. Using solutions that are innovative and community-specific to the complex view of poverty, Food for the Hungry contributes to community-owned transformations that empower children, families and communities to

invest in their own development.

## **Get Connected With Food for the Hungry**

Website // www.fh.org









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