

Turn Two for youth™

Impact Report 2023



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

Our Mission

The Turn Two for Youth mission is two-fold, offering support to young ballplayers who face financial barriers to participation. We provide them with essential equipment and connect them with dedicated coaches who serve as mentors, guiding and inspiring them toward positive growth and development. Simultaneously, we empower ballplayers with the means to make responsible choices and contribute to the sport they love by giving back in meaningful ways.

Our Story

Turn Two for Youth is a charitable organization with a heartfelt origin. Our journey began as a grassroots initiative when founders Billy Owens and Eric Smith, during a vacation in the Turks and Caicos, were moved by the sight of kids lacking the necessary baseball equipment to play. Motivated by a desire to make a difference, they returned to Charlotte, NC, and initiated a grassroots collection drive. The local community wholeheartedly embraced their idea, turning the grassroots campaign into the blueprint for a formal nonprofit organization.

From its humble beginnings, Turn Two for Youth has evolved into a nationwide force. We now collect baseball and softball gear throughout the United States, collaborating with coaches, players, and families who share our passion for giving back to the game. Together, we strive to make a positive impact on the lives of children, one player at a time.

Turn Two for youth™

BY THE NUMBERS 2015-2023

134,000

KIDS BENEFITED FROM TURN TWO
FOR YOUTH INITIATIVES



1,850+

COACHES ENGAGED

206



TONS

OF
GEAR
SHIPPED

NON-PROFITS
IMPACTED

203



Our Path



March 2011

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



December 2016

6 tons of gear shipped inside this calendar year



March 2015

Turn Two for Youth organizes as a 501 c3 non-profit charity



July 2018

Turn Two for youth receives Community Hero Award from Connect Sports



December 2022

38 tons of gear shipped



February 2023

Turn Two for Youth receives bulk shipment of brand new helmets



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



January 2017

ABCA announces Turn Two for Youth as its official charity



December 2019

34 tons of gear shipped inside this calendar year



December 2021

39 tons of gear shipped inside this calendar year



October 2022

Turn Two for Youth receives bulk shipment of brand new cleats



September 2023

3.5 tons of gear shipped to Bahamas



December 2023

40 tons of gear shipped

Turn Two for youth™



Truly grateful.

“ We thank you so much for your assistance, especially for taking the time to join us on opening day. Your gift and kind gesture were greatly and graciously received. ”

Rev. Ashley Brown

South Andros and Mangrove Cay Baseball League
South Andros, Bahamas

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

Each year, Turn Two for Youth receives numerous inquiries from coaches or athletic directors seeking to initiate or rejuvenate baseball or softball programs. Research consistently demonstrates that integrating sports into a young individual's life significantly improves academic performance, enhances concentration, boosts memory, promotes more effective problem-solving, and contributes to an improved mood – all advantages that 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 collaborates with coaches operating in economically challenged areas across the United States. In numerous rural communities, families struggle to afford even basic necessities, let alone the equipment required for sports. Our impact spans across various regions of the country, and when coaches in these communities are equipped with our gear, they can encourage youth participation among those who might not have considered it otherwise.

Innecity, underserved communities

Addressing the social, cultural, and economic disparities in our inner cities is a vital aspect of the Turn Two for Youth mission. Baseball and softball serve as unifying forces on the field, where everyone is equal. By collaborating with inner-city programs and even partnering with police departments, Turn Two for Youth provides the necessary equipment that empowers youth to actively participate.

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.

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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 six continuous grants.



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**

Turn Two for youth™



“

The lifeblood of our sport is the youth of America. ”

Jay Johnson, LSU Tigers Baseball Head Coach

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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