

# RBI PROGRAM REPORT 2019





***What I liked the most about RBI was how the coaches encouraged you to not give up and to move past the obstacles.***

**- RBI Participant**

**615**

**Children and youth participated in RBI programs**

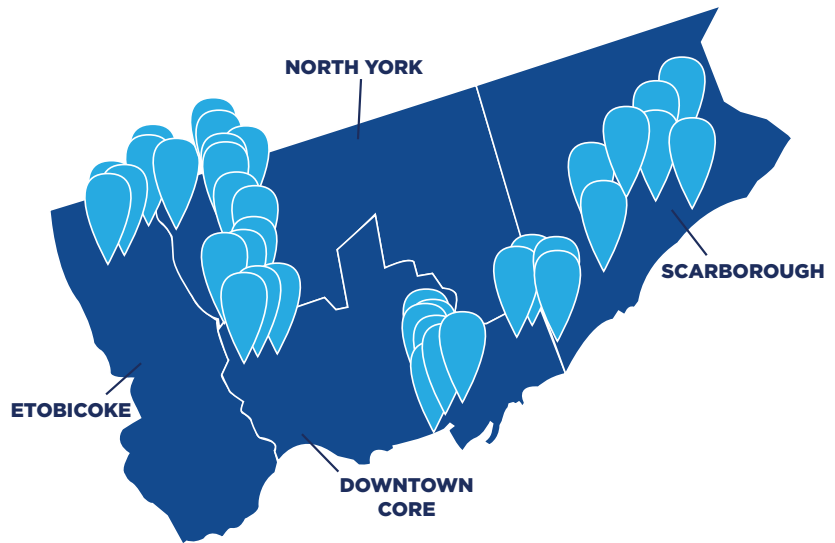
# What is RBI Toronto?

RBI is a program designed to use baseball as a vehicle for kids to build their confidence and learn the values of being a true team player. RBI is implemented in high-needs schools across Toronto and is specifically designed to remove any barriers to participation in team sports such as softball or baseball. RBI runs after-school for 10-weeks from April through June.

## Program Map

Here is a snapshot of the RBI program in 2019:

<b>615</b>	Children and youth
<b>38</b>	Schools across the city
<b>2</b>	School boards
<b>40</b>	Teams
<b>10</b>	Weeks of programming
<b>120</b>	Total games played
<b>5</b>	Culminating tournaments
<b>1</b>	Blue Jays Game Takeover



## Program Sites

### North York:

- Amesbury Middle School
- Beverley Heights Middle School
- Brookview Middle School
- CR Marchant Middle School
- Keelsedale Junior Public School
- Oakdale Park Middle School
- Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School
- Rockcliffe Middle School
- Roselands Junior Public School
- Shoreham Sports and Wellness Academy
- St. Bernard Catholic School
- St. Charles Garnier Catholic School
- Yorkwoods Public School

### Downtown:

- Kapapamahchakwew – Wandering Spirit School
- Lord Dufferin Public School
- Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School
- Queen Alexandra Middle School
- Rose Avenue Junior Public School
- St. Michael Catholic School
- St. Paul Catholic School
- Winchester Public School

### Etobicoke:

- Daystrom Public School
- Elmbank Junior Middle Academy
- Gracedale Public School
- Greenholme Junior Middle School
- Humber Summit Middle School
- St. Dorothy Catholic School

### Scarborough:

- Charles Gordon Senior Public School
- DA Morison Middle School
- George Webster Senior Elementary School
- Henry Hudson Senior Public School
- Military Trail Public School
- Robert Service Senior Public School
- Samuel Hearne Middle School
- St. Dunstan Catholic School
- St. Margaret Public School
- Tecumseh Senior Public School
- Tredway Woodsworth Public School

## RBI Impact and Statistics

**98%**

**of RBI Participants said their coach/teacher made RBI fun and encouraged them to get involved.**



**95%**

**of RBI Participants said they feel more confident in themselves.**



**95%**

**of RBI Participants said they challenged themselves and tried new things.**



**96%**

**of RBI Staff noticed an increase in participants' self-esteem.**



**91%**

**of RBI Participants said they now participate in more sports and activities.**

**It was really nice seeing the team come together – these are students who normally wouldn't interact with each other. It also introduced baseball to our school and made other students want to learn about it.**

**- RBI Teacher**

## Why Was RBI Created?



**ONLY 38% OF TDSB ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN IN FAMILIES EARNING UNDER \$30,000 ARE REGULARLY INVOLVED IN OUT-OF-SCHOOL SPORTS.**

**DID YOU KNOW?** Toronto is currently the child poverty capital of Canada with youth from low-income families severely lacking access to extended learning programs, recreation opportunities and extra-curricular activities because of barriers like high cost, inaccessibility and lack of relevancy. For newcomer, immigrant, refugee, and non-status youth these barriers are compounded.



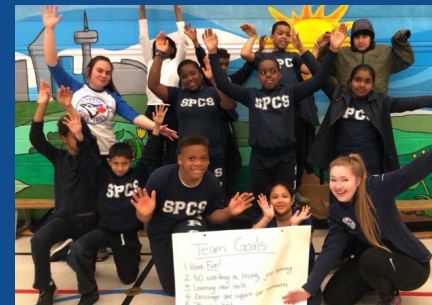
**56% OF YOUTH IN ONTARIO AGED 12-19 ARE NOT ACTIVE ENOUGH FOR OPTIMAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT.**

**DID YOU KNOW?** Long-term participation in regular, structured skill-building sport and recreation activities have been proven to promote positive mental health, feelings of belonging, and self-worth among children.



**ONLY 51% OF TDSB STUDENTS IN GRADES 7-8 IN FAMILIES EARNING UNDER \$30,000 GET THE 30+ MINS OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY 5-7 DAYS A WEEK.**

**DID YOU KNOW?** Moderate participation in extra-curricular activities, such as baseball, is proven to support increased academic functioning and standardized math scores according to Statistics Canada. Also, the positive effects of extra-curricular activities on grades and drop-out rates is particularly pronounced for disadvantaged children.



**I liked how we could use teamwork in many different ways like encouraging each other and getting better in practice.**

**- RBI Participant**

# How Does RBI Work?



## DEVELOP LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS

RBI focuses on strong local partnerships by working directly with schools in the Toronto District School Board and the Toronto Catholic School Board. Schools are selected on a needs basis and apply through an annual application process.



## BARRIER-FREE SPORT

Schools are provided with everything they need to create a successful program: baseball equipment, team uniforms, transportation and an RBI Coach who is trained by Jays Care to support the Teacher Coach in creating a fun and inclusive environment at all practices and games.



## INCLUSIVE, SAFE AND FUN COMPETITION

Each RBI school plays at least six competitive games against schools in their local region. This means that kids get to represent their community, have their families come watch and meet kids from nearby neighbourhoods in a space that is positive and safe.



## EVENTS AND TOURNAMENTS

RBI provides additional opportunities to schools like baseball clinics, skill-building day camps, and family days which aim to engage families in the program. At the end of RBI, all schools compete in a culminating tournament that includes awards and celebration activities.

## RBI 2019 Program Recap



THE PROGRAM GREW BY  
25 SCHOOLS IN 2019

25

OVER 120 GAMES WERE  
PLAYED OVER A 10-WEEK SPAN

120

THE RBI PROGRAM WAS  
SUPPORTED BY OVER 50  
VOLUNTEER TEACHERS AND PARENTS

50

# RBI Frequently Asked Questions



## Is there any cost to the program?

All costs associated with the RBI Program are covered by Jays Care Foundation.



## What makes a school eligible for RBI?

RBI is offered to schools that have students who face significant barriers to participating in organized team sports or extra-curricular activities. RBI prioritizes schools based on their needs as laid out in their application.



## What will my school receive as an RBI school?

Every RBI partner school receives:

- 1-3 Baseball Coaches
- Uniforms for each player
- Baseball equipment
- Field bookings and permits
- Transportation to and from games
- Championship tournament with awards
- Special all-star opportunities for select players
- Tickets to a Toronto Blue Jays game for your team



## As an RBI partner school, what am I responsible for?

- Providing 1-2 teachers who are present at all practices and games
- A practice facility at your school (i.e. soccer field, school yard, gym, etc.)

## How do I find out more or apply for RBI?

To find out more information and apply for the RBI Program, please contact:  
**Joshua Appel** at **416-341-3211** or **Joshua.Appel@bluejays.com**

**“The kids that joined aren’t necessarily the ones who would be confident to join other teams – this was their chance to do so!”**  
- RBI Teacher





BLUE JAYS

BLUE JAYS

BLUE JAYS

JAYS CARE  
GAME  
TAKEOVER  
SERIES

MARLBORO