NEWSLETTER

Fall 2026

About Us

Welcome to the Fall issue of the Baseball Assistance Team (B.A.T.) newsletter!

B.A.T. serves as a confidential lifeline for members of the Baseball Family facing medical, financial, or psychological challenges. Our goal is simple: to provide a short-term bridge back to self-sufficiency when there is nowhere else to turn.

To the members of the Baseball Family affected by the earthquakes in Panama: our thoughts are with you. B.A.T. continues to closely follow the recovery and relief efforts. You can contact us at **bat@mlb.com** or **(212)-931-7822** if you need assistance.

Find Information On

- Success Stories
- Initiatives
- Resources/Tools Updates
- Financial Education Resources
- Useful Links
- Community & Contact Info

Find out more about B.A.T.

SUCCESS STORIES



Marcus Mastrobuoni | Medical Device Sales

When Marcus Mastrobuoni's baseball career came to an end, he found himself facing a question every professional athlete eventually faces: "*What comes next?*"

Like many professional athletes who transition out of the sport, Marcus had to start working various odd jobs to be able to keep him and his family safe. While this kept his household bills paid, he knew it wasn't a long-term plan. He wanted a career with growth, purpose, and stability.

That turning point came when he took a job as an inventory assistant at a medical device manufacturer, Athrex. While working on the logistics side, Marcus was introduced to the idea of becoming a medical device sales representative as a way to keep moving up within the company. However, in order to step into a sales role, Marcus needed to finish his college degree.

Having left school about 30 credits short when he was drafted, returning to finish while managing existing student loan debt and potentially adding more to that debt, felt financially out of reach.

That's when his wife, Madison, discovered the Baseball Assistance Team's (B.A.T.) scholarship program. Marcus remembered B.A.T. staff members visiting locker rooms during his minor league days to talk about the resources available to former players. With this in mind, Marcus decided to reach out and fill out a scholarship application. Marcus was later able to finish his bachelor's in Business by the Fall of 2024 from California State University.



Today, Marcus has achieved his goal as he is thriving as a full-time medical device sales representative.

"The B.A.T. program made that possible," Marcus says.

His journey is similar to that of many former professional baseball players transitioning to life off the field. Every transition is unique, but commitment, discipline, and hard work are what make success possible.

Ernesto Adames | Cybersecurity Engineer



At just 16 years old, Ernesto Adames achieved the dream of countless young athletes when he signed with the Detroit Tigers in 2016. Baseball was more than his career; it was his identity. So when the organization released him, the news felt shocking as his dream got cut short. After this, Ernesto felt lost and left completely unsure of what to do next with his life.

He needed time to process this new reality. For around ten months, he explored different academic career paths. Initially considering business administration, he reminded himself to make sure he chose a field he was genuinely passionate about. The answer came through his interest in technology: Cybersecurity Engineering. Recognizing its vital importance in a growing digital world, he enrolled at the Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC).

The journey through university, however, brought its own challenges. Halfway through his degree, Ernesto and his family hit a challenging period, forcing him to drastically cut back his course load and delaying his expected graduation. It was during this time that he recalled the educational talks he attended at the DSL Tigers Academy about preparing for life after baseball and the resources available to former players.



Ernesto reached out to the Detroit Tigers' education coordinator in the Dominican Republic, who guided him towards the Baseball Assistance Team (B.A.T.). With B.A.T.'s financial backing lifting the burden, Ernesto regained his momentum and pushed through to the finish line.

In 2024, Ernesto graduated with top honors as summa cum laude in Cybersecurity Engineering. Today, he succeeds as a Non-Financial Risk Analyst, specializing in cybersecurity, information security, and technological risk supervision. The discipline, perseverance, and high-pressure composure he developed on the field now drive his success off of it.

"Baseball was my first big dream. It was not my last goal," Ernesto states.

Ernesto remains committed to growing professionally while staying connected to baseball, supporting initiatives that help other former players in transition.

CAREER TRANSITION EVENT





Overview: Beyond the Diamond Event

This past September, we officially launched our first career transition event in the Dominican Republic: "Más Allá del Diamante" (Beyond the Diamond).

Our core mission for this initiative was clear: to equip former players with actionable strategies and best practices for navigating life after baseball, while raising awareness about the meaningful career opportunities available when individuals are equipped with the right tools and preparation.

We carefully curated a series of essential topics designed for those asking, "What's next after baseball?" To ensure maximum impact, our sessions were led by a mix of subject-matter experts and former players who have walked in the attendees' shoes:

- **The Mental Aspect of Career Transition:** Karlos Rosario (Psychologist).
- **SMART Goal Setting:** Wildyn Florian (Former Baltimore Orioles & Boston Red Sox).
- **Professional Communication:** Reynaldo Gomez (Former Chicago Cubs).
- **Technological Tools:** Frederick Serrano (Former Houston Astros).
- **Resources & Tools via B.A.T.:** Andy Colon (Former Houston Astros).
- **Job Placement Workshop:** Jeancarlos Matos (Attraction & Integration Manager, Banco BHD).

A standout highlight was our panel featuring former MLB player and current baseball executive Nelson Cruz, alongside former MiLB player and entrepreneur Andy Taveras. They shared their personal journeys and encouraged attendees to take full advantage of available resources for personal and professional growth.



Following the panel, Nelson Cruz offered inspiring remarks on the importance of these initiatives:

"On a personal level, these types of activities are the ones we need to do more often. Identifying which players have the desire to do it, because the desire and drive to self-improve must be there. And it's very beautiful to see how those players who don't limit themselves, and despite the setback of being released, have the strength to create institutions, to educate themselves—because I understand that unfortunately not everyone is going to make it to the majors and live off baseball. So we need to carry that message, so that message reaches the younger players, because I believe the earlier we can deliver that message, the better equipped they will be to make the right decisions earlier in life..."



To wrap up the day, attendees put their newly acquired skills straight to work in a job fair featuring top corporate collaborators in the Dominican Republic, including:

- **Banco BHD**
- **Grupo Estrella**
- **Farmacias GBC**
- **Zona Franca Las Americas**
- **Applebee's**
- **IHOP**

This gave participants a direct platform to connect with employers, receive hiring advice, and explore concrete job opportunities.

Our goal remains centered on creating continuous self- and professional-development opportunities. By building a platform where former players can leverage their strengths, work on their growth areas, and forge an identity beyond baseball, we continue to fulfill our mission: empowering individuals to become fully self-sufficient.



NEW RESOURCE UPDATE

Google Career Launchpad | Google Cloud

In addition to offering Google Career Certificates through the Grow with Google program, we have recently gained access to Google's Career Launchpad program.

"... The Google Career Launchpad program provides no-cost training, focused on generative AI, for today's in-demand roles. These courses are developed by experts from across Google, including Google DeepMind's AI Research Foundations and Google Cloud Certificates and Generative AI for Leaders. Students can also prepare for an AI-driven world by building skills in data analytics, cybersecurity, and cloud engineering" (Google Cloud site, 2026).

To promote engagement and networking, we have begun forming cohorts for these Google Cloud certifications/learning paths. The first cohort has been working on the Generative AI Leader course. Stay tuned as we will keep opening cohorts year round so former players can obtain valuable tech skills in today's world.

Reminder: We continue to give access to people who want to complete any of the certifications under the Grow with Google Programs—Google Career Certificates. Cohorts are only being created for the Career Launchpad Program by Google Cloud as of now since access is limited.

Disclaimer: Completion of any of the Google Career Launchpad or Google Career Certificates program does not guarantee employment with Google. We provide access to these as educational opportunities in tech fields for you to develop skills that are in high demand in today's world.

For more information regarding Google Career Launchpad program cohorts and/or Google Career Certificates programs, feel free to send an email to **leonel.bejaran@mlb.com** or **andy.robles@mlb.com**.

BONUS RESOURCE

Career Dreamer | Grow with Google

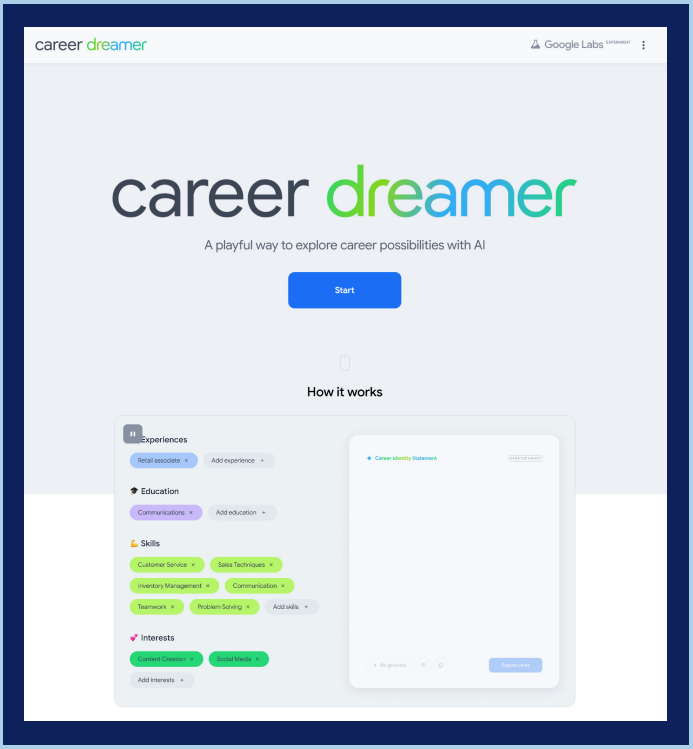
Career Dreamer is a FREE, experimental AI-powered career exploration tool by Google that helps users map their professional background to new job possibilities.

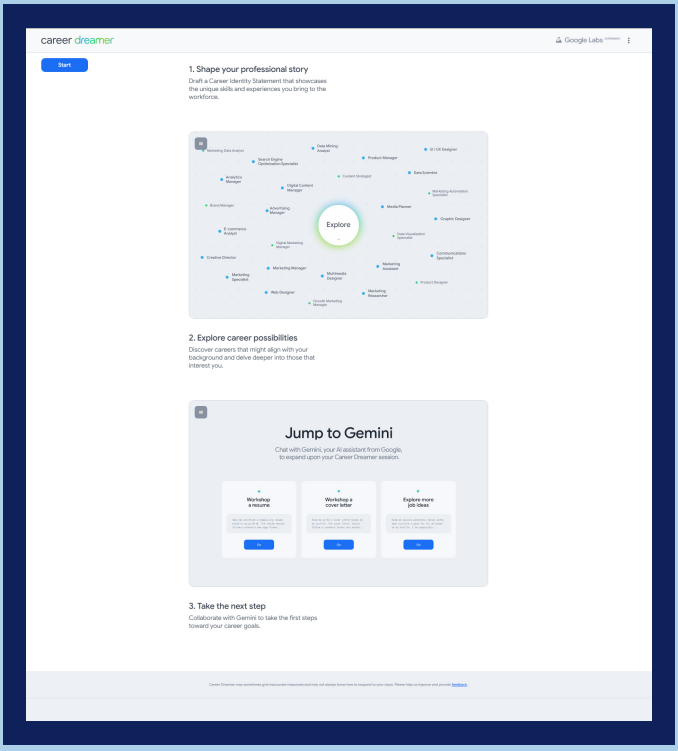
What does Career Dreamer do?

- **Analyzes Experience:** You input your past or current roles, industry, tasks, and skills.
- **Creates a Career Identity Statement:** It turns your background into a concise professional summary you can use on resume headers or LinkedIn.
- **Maps Career Paths:** It uses labor market and job requirement data to suggest aligned career options, matching skills, salary insights, and growth areas.
- **Connects to Training and Gemini:** It recommends targeted up-skilling resources (like Google Career Certificates) and lets you jump into Gemini to draft cover letters or refine resumes.

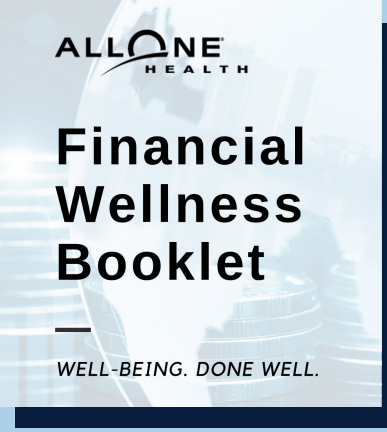
This tool is designed for those who are about to enter or re-enter the workforce or those who are pivoting in their careers.

You can try Career Dreamer out at any time and access it by clicking on **this link.**





FINANCIAL EDUCATION RESOURCES



All One Health

Financial stress can feel overwhelming, but you do not have to navigate it alone. This guide bridges the gap between immediate relief and lasting independence, aligning with the Baseball Assistance Team's mission to help the Baseball Family build true self-sufficiency. Inside, you will find a straightforward roadmap to simplify budgeting, master your credit score, and handle debt strategically. Take the first step toward reclaiming your peace of mind and building a secure future.

Click here to access a free financial toolkit provided by All One Health

New York Life Resources

Below you will see a list of educational material and tools provided by New York Life, one of MLB's official sponsors. Topics and resources covered include budgeting, an expenses calculator and material to help create savings goals.

Get access to tools New York Life utilizes with their own customers so people can recover, rebuild, and thrive. You can access the materials and tools by clicking on the links below:

Helpful Links

- How to Make a Personal Monthly Budget | New York Life
- How to Make a Simple "20/50/30" Budget
- Living Expenses Calculator | New York Life
- Savings Goals Calculator - Start Your Saving Plan | New York Life

TOOLS & RESOURCES

Take advantage of everything B.A.T. has to offer!

In this section, you will familiarize yourself with the different resources and tools available through B.A.T. These are free and will help you ease your transition into whichever field you decide to pursue. By adding and sharpening new skills, you will be a more competitive and prepared person for the job market.

Career Transition Assistance Scholarship Program

- *Technical and Vocational Courses*
- *Certifications*
- *High School Diploma*
- *Undergraduate Programs*

Podium X - Job Search Prep

- *Resume & Cover Letter Builder*
- *Interview Preparation*
- *Job Board*
- *1 on 1 assistance*
- *Integrated AI*

Google Career Certificates Program

- ***AI Certificate***
  - *AI Essentials (Shorter Course)*
  - *Prompting Essentials (Shorter Course)*
- ***Data Analytics***
  - *Advanced Data Analytics (Specialization)*
  - *Business Intelligence (Specialization)*
- ***Project Management***
  - *Agile Essentials (Shorter Course)*
- ***Marketing & E-commerce***
- ***Cybersecurity***
- ***UX Design***
- ***IT Support***
  - *IT Automation with Python (Specialization)*

If you are interested in signing up, eligible for B.A.T.'s benefits, and/or have any questions, contact ***leonel.bejaran@mlb.com*** *or* ***andy.robles@mlb.com*** *for more information.*

USEFUL LINKS

Jobs in Baseball

Dominican Republic and Latin America:

- **Milwaukee Brewers:**
  - Administrative Assistant - Latin American Ops | Dominican Republic
  - Minor League Pitching Coach | Dominican Republic
  - Assistant - Affiliate Minor League Strength & Conditioning | Dominican Republic
- **Tampa Bay Rays:**
  - DSL Athletic Trainer | Dominican Republic
  - Seasonal Dietitian
- **Arizona Diamondbacks**
  - International Scout | Mexico
- **Washington Nationals**
  - Video Tech Scout | Dominican Republic
  - Area Scout | Venezuela
  - Area Scout | Dominican Republic
- **Baltimore Orioles**
  - Area Scout Oriente | Venezuela
  - Area Scout Maracay | Venezuela
- **Boston Red Sox**
  - Development Coach | Dominican Republic

For more baseball industry opportunities in the United States and Latin America browse the following sites:

- Teamwork Online
- MLB Careers
- Join the Baseball Industry Network (LinkedIn)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Major League Baseball Players Alumni Association Career Development Summits (MLBPAA) Nov. 19th -22nd in Fort Lauderdale (ONLY OPEN TO THOSE WHO PLAYED AT THE MLB LEVEL)

- **Career Development Summit (English Speakers Version)**
  - Travel and lodging paid for by the MLBPAA.
- **Nov. 20th - 22nd, 2026 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.**
  - Registrations are still open. Learn more and register **HERE**



- **Cumbre de Desarrollo Profesional (Spanish Speakers Version)**
  - Travel and lodging paid for by the MLBPAA.
    - **MLBPAA does not cover VISA fees. If outside of the U.S. you need to already have a VISA in order to enter the U.S.**
- **Nov. 19th - 21, 2026 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.**
  - Registrations are still open. Learn more and register **HERE**

If interested in participating in either summit, and you are a **FORMER BIG LEAGUER**, contact **Victor Quiroga** Vquiroga@mlbpaa.com or **Kate Tyo** Kate@mlbpaa.com



MLB On Deck Sales Program (Virtual)

- **The MLB on Deck Sales Program** "is designed to provide participants a jump-start in their sales careers through a series of training sessions and consideration for entry-level sales opportunities across Major League Baseball (MLB) and Minor League Baseball (MiLB) entities. With a focus on attracting well-qualified applicants, MLB aims to place individuals who successfully complete this program directly into hiring pipelines with clubs."
- Applications are open for the Winter 2027 Cohort. **APPLY HERE**

Stay connected!

We are trying to keep all former players up to date with our programs, success stories, resources and tools. We continue to build communities across social media channels and ask that you connect with us on LinkedIn (below) and forward this newsletter to other former players who might be interested in obtaining updates.



Former MLB & MiLB Players Network & Community - LinkedIn

- Group for Former Players

Career Transition Information:
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Follow @batcharity for more news and updates

Hours:
Mon - Fri, 9am-5pm EST
(212) 931-7822
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