

BEYOND *THE* DIAMOND

CHICAGO WHITE SOX COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER | VOLUME 12 | SUMMER 2017



SOX SERVE WEEK

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 **CHICAGO
WHITE SOX
CHARITIES**





NINE YEARS AND RUNNING

WHITE SOX CELEBRATE SUCCESSFUL SOX SERVE WEEK



Season after season, the Chicago White Sox influence lives beyond the walls of the ballpark as well as between the white lines. This year marks the White Sox ninth year of Sox Serve Week – its annual community outreach and fundraising campaign that benefits Chicago White Sox Charities (CWSC).

The week engages the Chicagoland community as current players, front office staff and Volunteer Corps members participate in service events and fundraising. Since its inception, the campaign has raised nearly \$1.5 million for CWSC, which has been made possible by generous fan support and partnerships with Guaranteed Rate, Magellan Corporation, Proven IT and Wintrust Community Banks.

Here is a look at this year's Sox Serve Week events:

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

Sox Serve Week began on June 26 with a day full of Random Acts of Kindness. Former White Sox Rookie of the Year and Ambassador **Ron Kittle**, front office staff, Mazda Pride Crew members and other volunteers shared Sox Serve Week cheer with the community through every day acts that may be overlooked in the community. Staff members made a conscious effort throughout the day to be helpful and make others smile by showing kindness toward friends and strangers around the South Side, including visits to nursing homes and police stations, treating unsuspecting guests to lunch and distributing White Sox game tickets.

FUN AT NAVY PIER

White Sox pitcher **Derek Holland** joined children and foster families served by Children's Home + Aid for a day of fun at Navy Pier on June 27. The group created stuffed animals at Build-A-Bear Workshop then rode the Centennial Ferris Wheel.



YOUTH BASEBALL CLINIC

White Sox third baseman **Matt Davidson** and Ambassador **Harold Baines** joined 250 members of the Amateur City Elite (ACE), White Sox Inner-City Youth Baseball (ICYB) and White Sox Reviving Baseball in Inner-Cities (RBI) programs for a baseball clinic at University of Illinois-Chicago's Curtis Granderson Field on June 28. The clinic provided an opportunity for inner-city athletes to learn more about the fundamentals of the game.



MEAL PACK WITH FEEDING CHILDREN EVERYWHERE

In less than three hours on June 30, more than 400 Volunteer Corps members and front office staff packed 100,000 meals to be distributed to local service agencies throughout Chicago. The spirited event took place at Guaranteed Rate Field with a DJ keeping the excitement up as **Ron Kittle** and **Southpaw** encouraged volunteers to reach the 100,000 meal goal.

GRANT DAY

Sox Serve Week concluded on July 1 with CWSC's annual Grant Day. The White Sox honored this year's 44 grant recipients during a special on-field ceremony with **Harold Baines**, CWSC Executive Director Christine O'Reilly, Robert R. McCormick Foundation Senior Vice President of Philanthropy Don Cooke and President and CEO David Hiller. The 2017 grant donations, coupled with other charitable donations, moved the team's non-profit arm to nearly \$27 million in cumulative giving since its inception in 1990.

**TURN TO PAGE 10 TO SEE
OUR SOX SERVE WEEK
MILITARY OUTREACH EVENT!**

SOX SERVE WEEK BY THE NUMBERS

Each event during the week was accompanied by a unique fundraising experience, such as auctions with priceless experiences, a pop-up Garage Sale, "punch-a-bunch" and more. Here's a look at the week's overall impact:

400 Volunteer Corps members and front office staff activated

1,500 service hours dedicated to the community

More than **2,500** tickets donated

19 team members involved

More than **300** community members engaged

\$188,450 raised for CWSC

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL INITIATIVES



Going to Bat Against Breast Cancer

In conjunction with Major league Baseball's breast cancer awareness campaign, the White Sox honored an inspirational member of the Chicagoland community who has battled breast cancer through the annual MLB Honorary Bat Girl program. The 2017 honoree was **Shaika Ocampo**, a 32-year-old Chicago Police Officer from the Dunning neighborhood.

Ocampo was first diagnosed with breast cancer in September 2015 and battled her way to remission in July 2016. The cancer re-surfaced in December 2016, and she has since endured a bilateral mastectomy, eight rounds of chemotherapy and 28 sessions of radiation – yet she maintains a movingly positive attitude. Prior to the start of the White Sox game on Mother's Day, Ocampo was honored in a special pregame ceremony and threw out a ceremonial first pitch. Sox players and on-field personnel also participated in the breast cancer awareness initiative by wearing a symbolic pink jerseys and gear.





Prostate Cancer Foundation (PCF) Founder **Mike Milken** was honored in a special pregame ceremony on June 12. The foundation was presented with a \$25,000 check from Chicago White Sox Charities (CWSC) to support the official Prostate Cancer Home Run Challenge as well as its efforts to find a cure. With this donation, CWSC has donated more than \$300,000 since 2005. ◀



About 65 local athletes joined the White Sox at Guaranteed Rate Field to compete in the annual **Pitch, Hit & Run** competition on June 25. The winners were honored in a ceremony before the White Sox took on the A's.

BY THE NUMBERS

Between May 14 and June 25

Nearly

70

community members engaged

3

team members involved

More than

100

game tickets donated

TEAM MEMBERS IN THE COMMUNITY

The White Sox are proud of the positive impact they make on the community as well as how committed its team – from players and coaches to front office members – is to making a difference in the community. Here is a look at how some Sox team members give back.



ANDERSON'S LEAGUE OF LEADERS

White Sox infielder **Tim Anderson** and his wife **Bria** visited a Becoming a Man (BAM©) session with students at Parker Community Academy on June 13 to meet program participants and discuss the BAM core character development values. The visit kicked off Anderson's League of Leaders, a new community outreach program in partnership with Youth Guidance. Youth Guidance specializes in school-based interventions dedicated to student engagement, personal achievement and violence prevention.

"We're excited to work with kids who have the opportunity to look up to someone who looks like them and identifies with the struggle they are going through or have gone through," said Bria.

"Even though they're younger than me, they still taught me a lot," said Tim. "Just to hear their stories and learn what they go through on a daily basis is definitely motivating. I'm happy to step in and help them, guide them in the right way."



BY THE NUMBERS

Between April 6 and June 23

More than

320 community members engaged

7 team members involved

\$10,000 raised for Abreu's Amigos

\$1,700 raised for Benito Juarez High School baseball team

200 game tickets donated

White Sox Manager **Rick Renteria** launched the Club 17 program this season, providing inner-city kids the opportunity to enjoy a Major League Baseball game. On May 13, Renteria welcomed Benito Juarez High School students as the Club 17 guests. The students watched batting practice and met with Renteria on the field.



White Sox first baseman **José Abreu** kicked off the third year of Abreu's Amigos on May 31. Abreu joined more than 120 Easterseals Academy students and staff for a baseball clinic with the help of Bulls/Sox Academy coaches. Abreu's Amigos was launched in 2015 as a way for Abreu to share his passion for supporting children with special needs. Since the program's inception, nearly 50 students have visited the ballpark, developing social skills in a recreational setting.



The White Sox welcomed 15 teen patients from **University of Chicago Medicine's Comer Children's Hospital** to the ballpark on June 23. The special guests received VIP treatment, watching batting practice on the field prior to enjoying the game from a luxury suite. ►

White Sox Venezuelan players **Avisail García**, **Omar Narváez** and **Yolmer Sánchez** welcomed Mercedes Gomez to the ballpark on April 6. Gomez is a wheelchair racer from Venezuela who is emerging as a leader with the United States Department of State's Global Sport Mentoring Program. Her visit was part of a five-week trip visiting the U.S.



VOLUNTEER CORPS ACTIVATIONS

 **VOLUNTEER** CORPS

Beautifying Our Community

The White Sox Volunteer Corps kicked off the 2017 season with City Year Chicago through a large scale service day on May 13. White Sox manager **Rick Renteria** as well as infielders **Matt Davidson** and **Tyler Saladino** joined 150 Volunteer Corps members to paint wall murals and build benches for reading nooks at the Emmett Louis Till Math and Science Academy in the Woodlawn community.



BY THE NUMBERS

Between April 23 and June 3

215 Volunteer Corps members activated

5 team members and **9** White Sox wives involved

More than **900** service hours dedicated to the community

The White Sox celebrated National Volunteer Week by recognizing the top nine **White Sox Volunteer Corps** members from 2016 during an appreciation day on April 23. Seven volunteers took the field alongside White Sox players while the other two kicked off the game by announcing “play ball!”



White Sox Ambassador **Dan Pasqua** and nearly 40 Volunteer Corps members joined White Sox corporate partner Huntington Bank on May 20 for the Windy City Cleanup. The volunteers cleaned up North Avenue Beach and beautified the surrounding area. ▼



The Volunteer Corps also served the following organizations:

- Cradles to Crayons at the Giving Factory
- Chicago Special Olympics at the Spring Games
- Ray & Joan Kroc Corps Community Center ▼



ABOUT THE VOLUNTEER CORPS

When the White Sox talk about giving back to the community, much of the outreach is driven by the Volunteer Corps and front office volunteers. They're some of the White Sox most passionate fans who enjoy showing the community that the organization has its back. To get involved in serving the community, visit whitesox.com/volunteercorps for upcoming volunteer opportunities.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Saluting those who serve during Sox Serve Week

Every season, the White Sox show appreciation to military members and their families for their service to our country by providing the opportunity to relax and enjoy America's favorite pastime. Here is a look at recent military members and their visits with the White Sox.



As part of Sox Serve Week, the White Sox welcomed veterans from the Wounded Warrior Project to the ballpark for a batting practice experience on June 29. The veterans donned White Sox pinstripes while taking some swings on the field and interacting with various team members, including: manager **Rick Renteria**, bullpen coach **Curt Hasler**, as well as pitchers **Chris Beck**, **Derek Holland**, **David Holmberg**, **Nate Jones**, **Mike Pelfrey** and **Carlos Rodón**. Several of the veterans were members of the Chicago White Sox Division, a Navy Recruit Division that has had its swearing in ceremony at the ballpark for 33 consecutive years.



BY THE NUMBERS

Between April 21 and June 14

100 military members
and their families engaged

60 game tickets
donated

15 team members
involved

WHITE SOX TRUE HEROES

The following United States military members joined the White Sox as a “True Hero,” which included a batting practice experience and the in-game “Hero of the Game” recognition:

Army Sergeant **ZACHARY HAMPTON**

Army Specialist **O'BRIAN HILL**

Vietnam veteran, Army
Airborne Sergeant First Class

WILLIAM CECIL JOHNSON ►

World War II veteran, Army
First Class **JESSE PARNELL** ▼



White Sox players **Nate Jones**, **Jake Petricka**, and **Kevan Smith** toured the Luke Air Force Base in Glendale, Arizona, and met with men and women stationed there on March 10. More than 10 members of the 62nd Pilot Squadron and Airmen then joined the White Sox at Camelback Ranch on March 20 to take batting practice with current team members prior to enjoying the game. ▲



Seven members of the United States military and local law enforcement members took the field to meet White Sox players at their positions prior to the start of the May 29 game as part of the club's Memorial Day celebration.



SPECIAL EVENTS

ROAD TRIP WITH THE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS COUNCIL

To kick off the Young Professionals Council's (YPC) second year, the group took a bus trip to Milwaukee for the White Sox vs. Brewers exhibition game at Miller Park on April 1. One hundred and sixty White Sox fans participated in the trip, raising \$5,536 for Chicago White Sox Charities (CWSC).



YOUNG
PROFESSIONALS
COUNCIL



BY THE NUMBERS

Between February 16 and June 12

More than **1,250** community members engaged

18 Nearly **\$45,000** raised for CWSC

team members and front office staff involved

1,435 game tickets donated



STAND UP WITH THE SOX

The Young Professionals Council held its second annual **Stand Up with the Sox** comedy event on June 8. This year's event took place at Zanie's Comedy Club and raised \$2,596 for CWSC.

PICNIC IN THE PARK

The White Sox welcomed fans for the annual **Picnic in the Park** fundraiser on June 25. Guests had the opportunity to receive autographs from the current White Sox team, pose with the 2005 World Series trophy and enjoy dinner on the outfield grass.



FAMILY FIELD DAY

The White Sox welcomed 486 fans for **Family Field Day** on June 10. Fans enjoyed special field access, including: the opportunity to take swings in the White Sox batting cage, play catch on the field and take a photo with the 2005 World Series trophy.



The White Sox also welcomed the following community groups and members to the ballpark for special events:

- Amateur City Elite (ACE) athletes for Player of the Month ceremonies
- Former White Sox player and life-long fan Ben Birsra
- Youth Guidance for ballpark tours ▼



CHICAGO WHITE SOX CHARITIES FUNDRAISING

Each season, Sox fans near and far show their support for Chicago White Sox Charities (CWSC) by participating in new and tried-and-true fundraising campaigns. CWSC enjoys offering fun options for fans to show their support, which allows the organization to make a lasting impact on the community. Thank you to everyone who participated in the fundraising campaigns below.

Celebrating No. 56

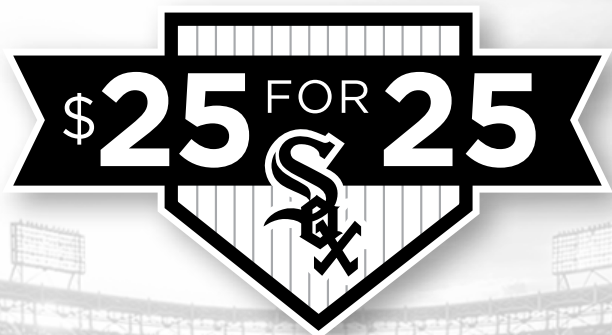
CWSC teamed up with former pitcher **Mark Buehrle** for a special fundraising sweepstakes called **56 for Charity**, which gave one lucky fan the opportunity to meet Buehrle and join other special guests on the field during his No. 56 retirement ceremony on June 24. The sweepstakes raised \$22,196 to benefit CWSC as well as two non-profit organizations selected by Buehrle: Hope Rescues and Mission Continues.





CWSC honors White Sox great and Hall-of Fame outfielder **Tim Lincecum** with a limited-edition bobblehead. The collectible bobbleheads are available for purchase online and at White Sox home games while supplies last. Proceeds benefit youth baseball initiatives supported by CWSC.

whitesox.com/rockbobble



Thank you to all of our fans who supported the second annual **\$25 for 25 campaign** on May 10-11. More than 1,300 donors participated in the 25-hour fundraising campaign, which raised nearly \$50,000 to support the organization's ongoing community outreach efforts.



BY THE NUMBERS

Between April 9 and June 25

More than

1,300

community members engaged

3

team members involved

More than

\$72,000

raised for CWSC

A SPECIAL THANKS to Corporate Partner Program members who help CWSC create a championship legacy beyond the diamond for the Chicagoland community.

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BEYOND *THE* DIAMOND

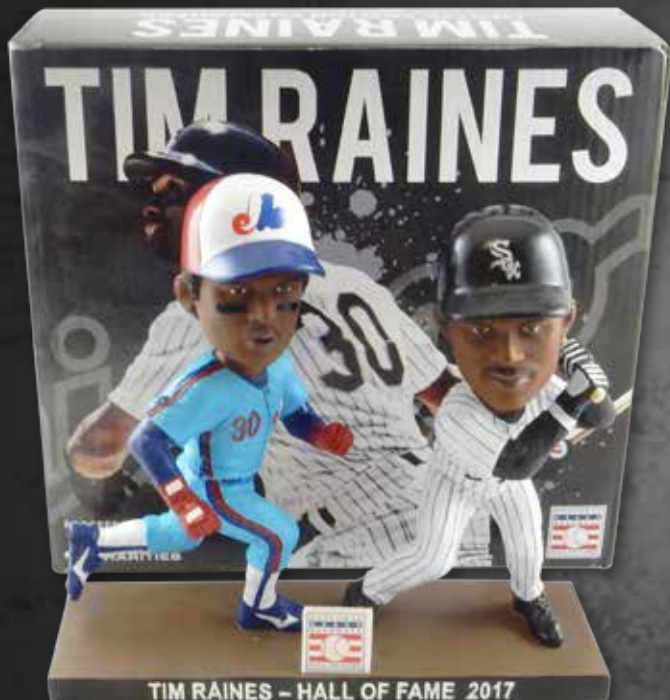


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