

# Baseball Equipment Donations Drive Roberto's Kids Collection Program

## Hall of Fame Outreach with Clemente Family Reaches Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic

May 31, 2006

**(COOPERSTOWN, NY):** The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum has teamed with the family of the late Hall of Famer [Roberto Clemente](#) to create *Roberto's Kids*, a collection program designed to deliver new and gently used baseball equipment to children in Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic, with hopes of reaching youngsters in other Latin America countries, including Venezuela and Mexico.

A new initiative, *Roberto's Kids* is a collaborative effort between the Hall of Fame, Luis and Roberto Clemente, Jr., and two individual supporters of the Baseball Hall of Fame, Steve Pindar of Oneonta, N.Y., and Steve Tremitiere of Newtown, Pa. *Roberto's Kids* hopes to continue the work of Pindar and Tremitiere, who have each collected several tons of equipment for children in the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico in recent years.

"The goal of *Roberto's Kids* is to collect and distribute equipment from baseball leagues, charitable organizations, individuals or retailers in the United States and Canada and provide that equipment to those in Latin American countries where baseball is loved and played with passion," said Hall of Fame President Dale Petroskey. "As a not-for-profit, educational institution, the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum has the responsibility to connect generations, and we are grateful for the commitment of the Clemente family, Steve Pindar and Steve Tremitiere and others to deliver the right tools to the next generation of baseball stars."

Through *Roberto's Kids*, the Hall of Fame hopes to expand the collection and distribution efforts begun independently by Pindar and Tremitiere by collecting equipment from giving organizations throughout 2006. Local organizations will be provided with a "Collection Blueprint," which will provide all the necessary information to run a successful local collection. Any equipment collected will then be sent to a central facility for processing and shipment.

"*Roberto's Kids* has brought joy to those who don't always get the opportunities," said Luis R. Clemente, Roberto Clemente's youngest son. "In the Clemente tradition of giving and caring for others, it is truly making a difference by touching and inspiring so many lives."

Pindar started the Baseball Equipment Project in 1999 in the Dominican Republic with a single donation from the Oneonta Little League. In 2005, the Pindar family collected five tons of equipment for Dominican children, collecting for all ages from organizations across the country.

Tremitiere has collected tons of equipment from eastern Pennsylvania and central New Jersey for the Roberto Clemente Sports City Complex and other organizations in Puerto Rico over the last few years.

"The good thing about this project is that it provides much needed equipment to kids that have the hopes and dreams of playing one day in the major leagues," said Omar Minaya, executive vice president of baseball operations and general manager of the New York Mets.

Organizations or individuals interested in supporting *Roberto's Kids* can contact the organization by calling 607-432-7440 or 607-437-8779, or by email at [info@robertos-kids.org](mailto:info@robertos-kids.org).