2017 Mets in the Community
Sometimes the most valuable gift you can give is your time.

In 2017, our entire organization devoted time to helping others during some of the most trying times in recent memory.

Who can forget the images of men, women and children in Puerto Rico, Houston and Florida waiting on line for basic necessities after Hurricane Maria, Harvey and Irma battered their homes. The entire country seemed to pull together to help and New York was no exception.

Our fans, corporate partners and employees volunteered their time to donate and collect more than 300,000 pounds of food, water, toiletries, paper goods, diapers and other much needed supplies to help those impacted by the hurricanes.

I’m also proud of the launch of the Ya Gotta Read program with 1,000 elementary school students at P.S. 19, just down Roosevelt Avenue in Corona. The initiative helped foster a love of reading in those boys and girls and I’m pleased that the Mets Foundation and Delta Air Lines are expanding Ya Gotta Read to 5,000 students in 2018!

The Mets continued to honor our fallen first-responders and their families. The wife and children of slain FDNY Battalion Chief Michael Fahy were our guests for a weekend in Spring Training. We had the honor of the families of NYPD Detective Steven McDonald and FDNY EMT Yadira Arroyo at Citi Field on Opening Day to throw out the first pitch.

From the hundreds of boys and girls who come to Citi Field for a baseball clinic with our players and coaches to the hundreds of hours our employees volunteered to hand out turkeys, serve meals and build bikes, the Mets strive to help others in our community.

It’s our responsibility to give back to those in need to our we look forward to doing even more in 2018.

Sincerely,

Jeff Wilpon
Chief Operating Officer
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YA GOTTA READ!
The Mets partnered with Queens Borough President Melinda Katz to launch the "Ya Gotta Read!" program to help foster a love of reading in students. The pilot program was offered to 1,000 third, fourth and fifth graders at P.S. 19 Marino Jeantet, the largest elementary school in New York.

Mr. Met helped launch the program at a kick off rally at the school. The Mets challenged the students to read one grade-level book a week and write a book report for each during the six-week program, which coincided with the start of Mets Spring Training. Students were rewarded with Mets-themed prizes after they read a certain number of books. Those who read six books or more received tickets to a Mets game! The class that read the most books won a visit from Mr. Met and a Mets player!

The students at P.S. 19 stepped up to the plate and read a total of 4,061 books. They embraced reading and hit the game-winning home run for the inaugural Mets Ya Gotta Read! program.
The Mets hosted hundreds of boys and girls for baseball clinics for the Junior Mets presented by Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Mets players and coaches ran the children through hitting, fielding and pitching drills at Citi Field. The kids received Junior Mets t-shirts as well as tickets to a future game. It’s a once-in-a-lifetime experience for the Junior Mets to learn baseball basics from players and coaches including infielder T.J. Rivera, pitcher Robert Gsellman and third base coach Glenn Sherlock. The Mets work with local youth baseball organizations from underserved areas to select the participants.
The Mets and infielder Wilmer Flores hosted foster children and their families at select games throughout the season through Friends of Flores presented by Konica Minolta. Each child received a ticket to a Mets game, the chance to meet Wilmer Flores, a Friends of Flores t-shirt, Mets goodies and a food voucher. The goal of the program is to continue to raise awareness about the thousands of local foster children in need of homes and the opportunity for families to serve as foster parents, adoptive families and mentors. The Mets worked with multiple foster care agencies including Cayuga Centers, Forestdale Inc. and NAFI New York.
Mets pitchers Jerry Blevins and Josh Smoker visited the Henry Viscardi School in Albertson, Long Island to play a game of wheelchair wiffle ball with students. The Viscardi School offers parents of children with severe physical disabilities and who often require life-sustaining medical treatment throughout the day, a traditional educational setting. Josh and Jerry took turns pitching to the students while staff cheered them on from the sidelines. Mr. Met hyped up the crowd and high fived the students as they made their way around the bases after hitting home runs. After the game, the players took photos and signed autographs for the students.
The Mets Sterling Award Winners, the top players in the minor league system, headed to P.S. 92 in Corona to take over a gym class. The players along with 30 third graders participated in various athletic activities to highlight the importance of staying active. Mr. Met gave out high fives to students and cheered them on.

After the games were over, players and students engaged in a Q & A where hard work and staying active was emphasized. The players then signed autographs for students and took photos.
The Mets hosted the 2nd annual Spring Clinic for Champions at their Spring Training home in Port St. Lucie, Florida in February. Around 80 Special Olympic athletes and their families participated in the baseball clinic at First Data Field. The athletes got to hit, field, catch and throw with Mets players and coaches including Michael Conforto, Noah Syndergaard and David Wright.

The athletes enjoyed a beautiful day of baseball followed by a barbecue with their favorite ballpark fare. Each athlete left with great memories of an unforgettable day!
& FIRST RESPONDERS
At every home game at Citi Field, the Mets salute the “Veteran of the Game” presented by First Data. A player presents the honoree with an American flag that flew over Citi Field and Citi Vision plays a segment showcasing the soldier’s achievements while serving in the military.
The Mets continue to salute the brave men and women of NYPD and FDNY who paid the ultimate sacrifice while protecting our great city.

During Spring Training in Port St. Lucie, Florida, the Mets hosted the family of slain FDNY Battalion Chief Michael Fahy for a weekend of fun and baseball. The Fahy children, Michael, Anna and Cormac, were honorary Mets, dressing up in authentic uniforms, having lockers alongside David Wright and taking batting and fielding practice with the players. When baseball was over, the Fahys had dinner, played mini golf and went bowling with the Mets including General Manager Sandy Alderson, Michael Conforto, Wilmer Flores and Brandon Nimmo.

On Opening Day 2017, the Mets honored FDNY EMT Yadira Arroyo and NYPD Detective Steven McDonald by inviting the families to throw out the ceremonial first pitch. Four of Arroyo’s children were present alongside McDonald’s son and wife. The Arroyo brothers were given jerseys with the number 26 on the back to signify Station 26 in the Bronx where their mother, a 14-year veteran, was assigned. The McDonalds wore jersey number 104, Detective McDonald’s badge number.

After the moment of silence, one of the Arroyo sons took the mound with McDonald’s son to throw out the first pitch simultaneously while Mets captain David Wright and Bronx native T.J. Rivera served as catchers. It was a fitting tribute to two heroes who dedicated their lives to serving and helping our city.
The Mets made their annual trip to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, to say thank you to the men and women of the military and their families. Mets Chairman Fred Wilpon, General Manager Sandy Alderson and the entire team along with Mr. Met hosted a barbeque lunch at the USO Center at Walter Reed. The day featured fun and games along with a DJ and face painting for the children. The players posed for photos and signed autographs for the soldiers and listened to their experiences of life in the military.
The Mets and Steven Matz hosted two special Tru32 events, presented by SecureWatch 24, to honor two first responders who were killed in the line of duty.

The Mets and Steven honored the family and firehouse of FDNY firefighter William Tolley by inviting his wife, Marie and daughter, Bella, and 50 firefighters from Engine 286 Ladder 135 in Glendale for a special day at Citi Field. Marie and Bella received personalized Mets jerseys and headed to the field for batting practice where they met several Mets players and coaches. Mets COO Jeff Wilpon and Steven presented the firehouse with a framed team-signed jersey in honor of Tolley, who served 14 years with the FDNY.

A few weeks later, the Mets and Steven did the same for the family and colleagues of NYPD Detective Miosotis Familia, a 12-year veteran. Familia’s three children Genesis, Delilah and Peter along with Police Officers from the 46th Precinct in the Bronx were invited to Citi Field. The children received personalized Mets jerseys and had the opportunity to watch batting practice and tour the clubhouse. The group was treated to a pre-game dinner where Robert Gsellman and Seth Lugo, who stepped in for Steven who was pitching that night, presented the precinct with a framed team-signed jersey in honor of Officer Familia.

The Mets and Steven launched Tru32 to honor those heroes that he admires the most, the first responders of the FDNY, NYPD and military.
Mets General Manager Sandy Alderson and Mets Hall-of-Famer Mookie Wilson visited the Brooklyn VA to thank veterans for their service and to talk all things baseball. Sandy and Mookie took questions from the audience, posed for photos and signed autographs. Brooklyn Cyclones executives and mascot Sandy the Seagull also joined the visit and gave out Cyclones hats to go along with Mets t-shirts.
The Mets continued their tradition of visiting firehouses every year since the 9/11 attacks to honor and remember the brave men and women of the FDNY who sacrificed their lives to help others during the tragic event. This year Chasen Bradford, Brandon Nimmo, Kevin Plawecki and Paul Sewald visited firefighters in Engine 219 Ladder 105 in Prospect Heights, Brooklyn. The firehouse lost seven members on September 11.

The players toured the firehouse, sat in the fire trucks, tried on gear and viewed the firehouse’s 9/11 memorial. The members of the firehouse received t-shirts and tickets to an upcoming game.
Members from the five branches of the U.S. Military were invited to Citi Field for the third annual Mets Military Softball Classic, presented by First Data. The Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard all competed in a round robin softball tournament on the field before a Mets game.

The Navy/Coast Guard team beat out the Marines on a tiebreaker to take the championship! General Manager Sandy Alderson, a retired Marine, along with several Mets players greeted all the participants and presented each one of them with Mets Challenge Coins in appreciation for their service. Each participant received an exclusive Mets Military t-shirt and tickets to a Mets game. Following all the action, members of military and their families enjoyed a buffet in the Bullpen Plaza and watched the lunar eclipse along with the team.
In response to the devastating hurricanes that ravaged Puerto Rico, Florida and Texas, the Mets held two Hurricane Relief Drives to help those impacted by Hurricanes Maria, Irma and Harvey.

The Mets partnered with New York State Governor Andrew M. Cuomo on the Empire State Relief & Recovery Effort for Puerto Rico to collect relief items at Citi Field during the last week of September. The team worked with Queens Borough President Melinda Katz to spread the word and collect donations to help those affected in Houston and Florida.

Mets fans and New Yorkers heeded the call and turned out in full force to help others in need. The Mets collected over 300,000 pounds of food, water, diapers, toiletries, paper products and more.

The supplies for Puerto Rico were sent to the island via charter planes and cargo ships. An 18-wheel truck loaded with items for Florida headed to First Data Field in Port. St. Lucie where more than 60 Mets minor leaguers unloaded the supplies and distributed them to groups working with Mustard Seed assisting the community in Ft. Pierce. The second 18-wheeler bound for Texas was received by the Houston Food Bank.

The drive would not have been a success without the generosity of hundreds of New Yorkers and Mets partners including Alliance Building Services, Hain Celestial, Anheuser-Busch, Coca-Cola and Aramark.
For the past four years, the Mets have teamed up with our partners at Bloomberg LP to hold Bike Builds to benefit children in New York City. Volunteers from both companies have built more than 3,000 bikes that have been distributed to children in underserved areas. In the latest build in June, the Mets and Bloomberg worked with Citi for their Global Community Day to build bikes for the YMCA and other community organizations.
The Mets Employee Engagement Program provides Mets employees with monthly volunteer opportunities at local community organizations. In 2017, more than 140 employees donated 469 hours helping care for dogs and cats at the North Shore Animal League in Port Washington, reading books to children at the Pajama Program in Manhattan, or serving meals to people in need at the New York Common Pantry in East Harlem. Mets employees also rallied together to receive, sort and pack donations at the two Hurricane Relief Drives.
TURKEY GIVEAWAY
The Mets hosted their fourth annual turkey giveaway in advance of Thanksgiving, distributing 500 turkeys throughout the five boroughs with the help of Uber to help families in need. Mets infielder Wilmer Flores went door to door in Corona delivering turkeys and all the fixings for a Thanksgiving dinner, while Mets employees volunteered to hand out turkeys at various locations throughout the city.

The Mets worked with Mets Community Partner the River Fund NY to give away turkeys to families in Richmond Hill in Queens, Cayuga Centers in the South Bronx, Mets Community Partner New York Common Pantry in East Harlem in Manhattan, Project Hospitality in Staten Island and Agape Food Rescue in East New York in Brooklyn. The Mets also worked with the NYPD Community Affairs office from the 110th precinct to select 25 the families who received complete Thanksgiving meals.
KIDS HOLIDAY PARTY
The Mets hosted 125 children from local Queens schools for the annual Kids Holiday party at Citi Field. The festivities included lunch, games and holiday performances from each school. Mets outfielder Brandon Nimmo dressed up as Santa while teammates Noah Syndergaard, Jerry Blevins and Kevin Plawecki served as his elves and handed out presents to the children.

COAT DRIVE
Mets provide annual support to the New York Cares Coat Drive with their own “Warm-Up” Holiday Coat Drive at Citi Field presented by United Healthcare. More than 1,200 coats were collected to help those in need. Fans who donated received a pair of tickets to a Mets game.

FOOD DRIVE
The Mets and Hain Celestial teamed up for the annual Food Drive benefiting the River Fund NY, a hunger-relief organization based in Richmond Hill, Queens. Fans who donated at least 10 non-perishable items received a voucher good for two tickets to a Mets home game in 2018. The November drive generated 5,000 pounds of food.
Wives of Mets players and coaches lent a helping hand to various initiatives and events throughout the season. The wives collected food during the Summer Food Drive presented by Hain Celestial, volunteered to clean kennels and walk animals at the North Shore Animal League, and helped young girls from NYC’s Shelter System from Girl Scout Troop 6000 with activities designed to boost confidence and work on public speaking.
The Mets teamed up with the NYPD, local elected officials and other community groups to support National Night Out. The annual nationwide event seeks to enhance the relationship between law enforcement and the community while also raising awareness about crime prevention.

Police precincts around New York City organized anti-crime rallies in parks and playgrounds with family-friendly entertainment and activities in partnership with local business and civic organizations. Mets employees went to eight precincts in Queens to set up tables, hand out t-shirts and support the NYPD. Mr. Met made a surprise appearance at one of the locations to greet fans and take part in the block parties.
The Mets held a series of drives throughout the year to help those in need. Since 2009, the annual winter and summer blood drives at Citi Field have drawn over 10,000 donors, helping to save more than 30,000 lives. The Mets collected more than 13,000 pounds of food at the Summer Food Drive presented by Hain Celestial. The River Fund NY helped collect and then distributed the items at its weekly food pantry serving clients in Queens. Wives of Mets players and coaches along with Mets legend Mookie Wilson helped collect food and thank fans for their generosity. Fans who donated at the Blood and Food Drives received vouchers for Mets tickets.
The New York Mets Foundation funds and promotes a variety of educational, social and athletic programs and other charitable causes. Founded in 1963, it continues its mission to invest in the future of our community, and to provide assistance to myriad organizations that benefit children and others in need.

A registered 501(c) 3 charity, the Mets Foundation takes no portion of the funds raised to offset internal costs. The New York Mets pay 100% of the Foundation's overhead to ensure that the entirety of a donation is directed toward helping others (online donations are subject to a third party service fee).

Fred Wilpon, Trustee
Saul Katz, Trustee
Jeffrey S. Wilpon, Trustee
David P. Cohen, Secretary
Mark Peskin, Treasurer
ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT INCLUDE

DREAM
PLAY LEARN GROW

The Jackie Robinson Foundation

New York City Police Foundation
Invest in a Safe City

FDNY Foundation

QUEENS MUSEUM

Queens Theatre

the Y
YMCA

Alliance for Flushing Meadows Corona Park

Queens Library

The River Fund
New York

Common Pantry+
AN UNCOMMON SOLUTION TO HUNGER

BCS
BROOKLYN COMMUNITY SERVICES

Queens Community House

9/11 Memorial & Museum

St. Francis Food Pantries and Shelters
Feeding, clothing and counseling poor families

Central Family Life Center

CAPS
Child Abuse Prevention Services

The Child Center of NY
Strengthening Family. Building Community.
The Mets held their annual Welcome Home Dinner presented by Alliance Building Services for the first time at Citi Field the night before Opening Day. The event raised more than $700,000 for the Mets Foundation, which funds and promotes a variety of educational, social and athletic programs and charitable causes.

The intimate evening featured Mets Ownership, General Manager Sandy Alderson and the entire Mets roster. Comedian and Saturday Night Live veteran Jim Breuer hosted a Game Show featuring Mets players.

Guests had the opportunity to taste cuisine from our world renowned culinary partners and bid on Mets autographed memorabilia and exclusive experiences through the Amazin’ Auction. After the dinner, guests were invited onto the field where they were able to walk in the Mets dugout and tour the Mets Clubhouse.
The Mets Foundation’s Holiday Shopping Spree presented by Delta Air Lines helped 10 children from Queens experience a holiday season like never before. Mets players Amed Rosario and Dominic Smith and Delta volunteers surprised the children with a $400 Target gift card to spend on themselves and then helped the children go shopping throughout the store.

After the shopping was over, children enjoyed a pizza party and made holiday decorations with the players and Delta volunteers. The children were in for one more treat. The players surprised them again with a second $400 Target gift card to give to their guardians to help with the holidays or basic needs of the household.
The Mets Foundation helped the Lehman High School Baseball Team to call its home field, home again. During the 2016 season, the team was unable to play games at home because its portable mound broke, forcing the team to play all its game on the road. The Mets Foundation stepped in and purchased a new portable mound, allowing Lehman to have home-field advantage once again.
FUNDRAISING
PROJECT ALS - Mets

A NIGHT TO BELIEVE:
BURGERS, BEER, & BASEBALL

2017 RAFFLE
TICKETS: $10 each
The Mets hosted the annual "Night to Believe" fundraiser at Citi Field benefitting Project ALS, a non-profit organization renowned for their outstanding leadership in finding and funding treatments and a cure for Lou Gehrig’s disease. Over the last 16 years, the fundraiser has helped raise more than $2.6 million for crucial ALS research.

The Mets organization proudly contributes $2,500 for every win to Northwell Health and the Katz Institute for Women’s Health. In 2017, the Mets donated $217,500 for the 87 victories from the previous season. The Katz Institute for Women’s Health puts women at the center of all of its programs, providing an expanded vision of the doctor/patient partnership by offering access to clinical programs run by experts who understand the unique needs of women. The Katz Institute provides a complete health care connection and define the standards of excellence.
More than 700 children and their families came to Citi Field for the 15th annual enCourage Kids Night Fundraiser. The children enjoyed face painting, ballpark fare and special visits from Mr. Met and wives of Mets players and coaches. The annual event raises close to $100,000 for the organization so they can continue bringing laughter and smiles to thousands of sick children every year.

The Mets host an annual fundraiser for Ronald McDonald House Long Island, a non-profit organization that gives comfort and shelter to families experiencing the pain of having a sick child in local hospital facilities. The fundraiser at Citi Field features a silent auction, batting practice experiences for VIPs and a fun filled night to raise funds and awareness for the worthy organization.
Mets COO Jeff Wilpon and Queens Borough President Melinda Katz packed and sorted supplies to help those impacted by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma in Houston and Florida. Fans donated more than 70,000 pounds of relief supplies.

New York City Councilman Costa Constantinides joined Mr. Met at the annual National Night Out celebration with the NYPD at Astoria Park. The Mets teamed up with the NYPD to hand out more than 10,000 t-shirts to the community at eight locations in Queens.

Mets pitcher Seth Lugo joined New York State Governor Andrew M. Cuomo at an announcement launching the Empire State Relief & Recovery Effort for Puerto Rico. Citi Field served as a strategic location for New Yorkers to drop off much needed food, water, toiletries and other supplies for those devastated by Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico.

New York City Schools Chancellor Carmen Fariña and New York City council member Julissa Ferreras-Copeland congratulated more than 100 students who overcame challenges and graduated high school. The Remarkable Achiever Award reception took place at Citi Field. Students and their families enjoyed dinner at the Foxwoods Club and then took in a Mets game.
Department of Sanitation Commissioner Kathryn Garcia presented the Mets and ARAMARK with certificates commending the organizations for their extraordinary environmental awareness in recycling food waste and helping NYC achieve its goal of zero waste to landfills by 2030.

The Mets once again partnered with NYC Councilman Peter Koo on the 8th annual Readers Are Leaders contest, honoring the third grade students from Flushing who wrote the most creative book reports.

New York City Council Member Ritchie Torres, New York State Assemblyman Michael G. DenDekker, Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. and New York State Assemblyman Marcos A. Crespo tailgated with friends before the Subway Series at Citi Field. DenDekker and Crespo noted that Diaz was wearing the wrong jersey to the game.

New York City Councilman Rafael L. Espinal, Jr. toured Citi Field to learn about how the ballpark netting protects fans from batted balls. Espinal and Mets Chairman Fred Wilpon also chatted about baseball during batting practice.
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Ya Gotta Read! 4,061 books read

MetsGiving

500 turkeys
3,000 Mets tickets distributed

1,200 coats donated

3,000 bikes built for deserving kids at Citi Field bike builds since 2014

Hurricane Relief Drive

300,000 pounds of food collected for Puerto Rico, Florida & Houston

Military & First Responders

81 veterans honored as “Veteran of the Game”
16 straight years the Mets have visited a firehouse to commemorate 9/11

Lives helped/saved by more than 10,000 donors who have donated at Mets blood drives at Citi Field since 2009

Service

10,000 Mets T-shirts handed out at the NYPD’s National Night Out events in Queens

30,000 lives helped/saved by more than 10,000 donors who have donated at Mets blood drives at Citi Field since 2009

Employees volunteered

469 hours at 14 different events through the community team’s employee engagement program

mets.com/community