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Marlins Foundation to announce Charity Partner empowerment fund winners

Breakthrough Miami, Miami Children's Museum, Miracle League of Miami-Dade, Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired announced as official 2013 Marlins Charity Partners.

By / MLB.com

MIAMI - (April 26, 2013) - **The Marlins Foundation is announcing the 2013 Charity Partners during the pre-game ceremonies at Marlins Park on Saturday, April 27 at 6:30 P.M. when the Marlins take on the Cubs.** The charities will be announced with a flag presentation to the four selected organizations. Each organization will have a representative present to receive their Marlins Charity Partner flag.

The four organizations selected to receive a \$25,000 gift from the Marlins Foundation are Miracle League of Miami-Dade, Breakthrough Miami, Miami Children's Museum and Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Marlins Foundation Charity Partner Program was created to make a focused impact in philanthropy. Additional benefits include volunteers from Marlins Ayudan, recognition throughout the season at Marlins Park, and player involvement.

"During the Inaugural Year at Marlins Park, the Marlins Foundation gifted over \$1.2 MM in philanthropy in South Florida. In addition, over 6,000 hours of volunteer service was done through Marlins Ayudan. To continue our commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility, and in recognition of the vital role non-profits play in South Florida, the Marlins Foundation has selected four impactful organizations to empower and designate as our official 2013 Charity Partners." said Miami Marlins President, David Samson.

Marlins Foundation received 137 applications, which went through two application processes. To be considered as a 2013 Marlins Charity Partner, organizations must provide direct and unique programming for youth through educational, arts and baseball related programming, more specifically by providing unique experiences for kids in schools, parks and on the water.

The Marlins donations will go toward the building of Miami's first Miracle League field as well as an elective course during Breakthrough Miami's summer-institute called, "Life Lessons through Baseball". The sponsorship with Miami Children's Museum will provide "Sensory Saturdays," where children with special-needs are invited with their families to enjoy the museum exhibits. The last \$25,000 donation will provide free comprehensive diagnostic eye exams for children through the partnership with Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

This story was not subject to the approval of Major League Baseball or its clubs.

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