



Press Release

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"Strike out the Hurricanes!"

State Farm®, Mets Partner To Promote Hurricane Prep

St. Lucie, Fla. – In a first of its kind community outreach and mentoring project, State Farm Insurance is partnering with the St. Lucie Mets, the Boys & Girls Clubs of St Lucie County, and the YMCA of the Treasure Coast, to promote hurricane preparedness and emergency planning.

During the initial phase of the project which began in April, State Farm associates teamed up with representatives from FLASH (Federal Alliance for Safe Homes) and the National Weather Service to provide [Mets](#) players with valuable hurricane preparedness information and tools. These training sessions helped prepare the players to serve as mentors/teachers for groups of children in the Boys and Girls Clubs and the YMCA. Once trained, the Mets players began meeting with the children on a regular basis, teaching them about the importance of hurricane preparation.

Hurricane preparation topics include: *Single - Evacuation or Stay Home?*; *Double - Survival Kit*; *Triple - Home Safety*; and *Home Run - Community Safety*. The mentoring project also will feature a poster contest, offering the kids an opportunity to win season tickets to St. Lucie Mets games. As an additional reward and incentive, Mets players will offer free baseball clinics for the kids at the Clubs and at Tradition Field.

The project – supported and enhanced by the [National Consortium for Academics and Sports](#) and [Drexel University](#) – will serve as a strong community outreach program to spread the word about the importance of hurricane preparation. The program will reach out into the community with an exciting Hurricane Awareness Kick-Off event at the Mets game slated for **Saturday, May 27, 2006**. During the game, State Farm associates, Mets players, and the children will join in a collaborative community outreach effort to share hurricane preparation tips with fans. Hurricane preparation displays will be set up and informational brochures handed out to those in attendance.

Highlights of the program:

- April 24-May 5: Mets players began visiting local Clubs for introductory meetings.
- May 8-26: Mets players began mentoring/teaching hurricane preparation.
- May 27: **Hurricane Awareness Kick-Off** at the ball park with free tickets for the children.
- May 29-June 23: Mets players continue to mentor/teach hurricane preparation.
- June 26-30: Kids to submit posters for contest.
- The Mets players will offer **baseball clinics** (dates to be announced) for the kids at the Clubs and at Tradition Field.

Note to media – interview/video/photo opportunities can be arranged. Please contact Michal Shanley, State Farm Media Specialist, at 863-318-3088 for further information or to arrange interviews.

