



# THE WORLD BASEBALL ACADEMY

501(c)3 nonprofit organization

1701 Freeman Street \* Fort Wayne, IN 46802  
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## WBA Excited About Growth!

The World Baseball Academy (WBA) has some exciting news to share with our community supporters.

Over the past twelve months we have seen an exciting growth in every area of our operation's programming! This growth and additional nonprofit collaboration has also allowed the WBA to expand our part-time and full-time staff.

We are very excited about our next steps and continuing to use the game of baseball as a tool for social and economic impact in our community.

## New Addition: Tournaments Under WBA Ownership

In August, the World Baseball Academy officially put together the details to take ownership of the Hoosier Classic Summer Baseball Tournaments!

These tournaments have been a staple in summer baseball programming in Fort Wayne for over 15 years and are now positioned to fulfill another component of the WBA's long-term goals.

"This transition is a vital part of building stronger programming along with the establishing the revenue streams in order sustain the WBA operations," explains Board Member Steve Sotir.

The Hoosier Classic Tournaments have been estimated at bringing in nearly \$1 million of economic impact into the Fort Wayne community on an annual basis.

## International News

The World Baseball Academy (WBA) is continuing to develop relationships within the game of baseball on an international level.

"Our initial focus has been to send our staff to other areas of the world to help serve our mission and build relationships through international outreach," explains Caleb Kimmel, Executive Director.

"However, our next phase gets a little more exciting," says Kimmel. The WBA is slowly beginning to create opportunities for **local athletes, parents, and coaches** to begin traveling **with** our leadership to help teach the game internationally.

Our goal is simplistic in nature and has a two-fold expected outcome:

- 1.) **Create life changing experience opportunities for our own young people as they gain a better perspective on our world.**
- 2.) **To increase the support and encouragement being given to at-risk youth in other nations.**

The international experience has deeply affected the perspective of the leadership of The WBA and we continue to move forward with the details necessary to make these opportunities available to our local community.

In 2012, we are hoping to invite area teens and adults in helping to serve our current projects in El Salvador and Bulgaria!



## Special Note

The World Baseball Academy was humbled to be chosen as the beneficiary of the Tim Erdly Memorial Fund. Tim passed away in early July and passionately enjoyed the game as a player and into his adulthood.

**Our Condolences go out to The Erdly Family.**

**TIMOTHY A. ERDLY**



1963 - 2011

## RBI MEMORABLE MOMENTS!



2011 RBI Program  
Fort Wayne, IN



RBI Night at The FW TinCaps Game as the RBI players have some fun with Johnny the Mascot!

When The Heat Index hit 110 degrees the RBI Teams hit the "Splash Pad!"

