



YMCA

We build strong kids,  
strong families, strong communities.

## **Atlanta Braves Baseball Academy to provide opportunities for kids Local corporations support kids & families in Carver community**

ATLANTA (April 12, 2005)- The Atlanta Braves and the Villages at Carver Family YMCA break ground on the Atlanta Braves Baseball Academy Tuesday, April 12, 2005. The Baseball Academy is part of the \$13.5 million new full-facility, family YMCA in the redeveloped Villages at Carver community off Pryor Road.

Atlanta Braves players Mike Hampton, Chipper Jones, Brian Jordan, and John Smoltz are each sponsoring a baseball field at the Academy. “Working with youth baseball programs like this one gives me the opportunity to give kids the same chance that I had to grow up with this great game,” says Jones. “I have been fortunate enough to be where I am today because of special people who have touched my life. This gives me one opportunity to say thank you.”

The eight-acre sports complex will be at the heart of the redeveloped Carver community, located in the shadow of Turner Field. It includes four fields, two pavilions, batting cages, and a playground. YMCA after-school and summer programs like baseball, softball and t-ball will integrate academic enrichment and homework assistance with teamwork and character development.

“There are no organized, recreational programs available in this area,” says David Homrich, Metro Atlanta YMCA board chairman and EVP of AMB Group, LLC. “The Pryor Road corridor is being transformed with the redevelopment of the Villages at Carver, and the new Villages at Carver Family YMCA will be at the center of this community.” The new YMCA will be operated jointly by the Metro Atlanta YMCA and the Butler Street YMCA and will offer a variety of programs for people of all faiths, incomes, ages, and abilities.

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## **Atlanta Braves Baseball Academy at Carver YMCA**

**Page 2-2-2**

“The Atlanta Braves take tremendous pride in serving this community and are committed to making a positive impact on the lives of our youth,” said Derek Schiller, Braves senior vice president, sales and marketing. “The Braves Baseball Academy will provide thousands of young people the opportunity to learn and enjoy the game of baseball, while increasing self-esteem and encouraging academic excellence.”

Funding for the Atlanta Braves Baseball Academy comes from generous donations from: The Atlanta Braves Foundation; AGL Resources; The Atlanta Foundation; Bank of America; The Baseball Tomorrow Fund; BellSouth; Garry Betty; Chipper Jones Family Foundation; Cingular Wireless; The Coca-Cola Company; Delta Air Lines, Inc.; Georgia-Pacific Foundation; Price Gilbert, Jr. Charitable Fund; Georgia Power Foundation; The Mike Hampton Pitching-In Foundation; The Home Depot; The Brian Jordan Foundation.

Funders also include: Mary Ryan & Henry G. Kuhrt Foundation; The Sartain-Lanier Family Foundation; Publix Super Market Charities; Dick and Jan Shirk; John and Dyan Smoltz Foundation; Turner Broadcasting System, Inc.; The UPS Foundation; Wachovia Foundation; and, the Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation.

Established in 1992, the Atlanta Braves Foundation is the non-profit arm of the Atlanta Braves that actively supports community organizations and their programs within the metro Atlanta area.

A charitable organization, the Metro Atlanta YMCA is an association of people who come together with the vision of building strong kids, strong families, strong communities. The YMCA is open to all regardless of age, race, religion, gender, or ability to pay. Call 404-588-YMCA (9622).

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