



\$5,000 GRANT AWARDED TO BATTERS UP USA BY AMON CARTER FOUNDATION

First Lady Michelle Obama, leader of *Let's Move*, recently told *Newsweek* that "between the pressures of today's economy and the breakneck pace of modern life, the well-being of kids has gotten lost in the shuffle."

Current statistics indicate that nowadays kids who are ages 8-18 spend nearly eight hours a day using entertainment media such as television, video games, cell phones, and computers.

To help get kids outside for the physical recreation they so desperately need, Batters Up USA is pleased to announce a \$5,000 grant from the Amon G. Carter Foundation. The money will help support the group's mission of increasing participation in recreational baseball/softball programs for boys and girls, particularly those in an inner-city environment.

"I am pleased and flattered that this very large foundation recognized value in our mission to help kids get more active in healthy team sports," said Jess Heald, Batters Up USA executive director. "The funds will be used to purchase equipment that we contribute to local organizations nationwide to help them get started. The \$5,000 will purchase enough equipment to support the start-up of 10 new programs for 2,500 youths."

The Amon G. Carter Foundation was founded in 1945 and has contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to charitable causes. The Fort Worth (TX) company has helped out the arts, education, and health and medical services as well as human and social services, programs benefitting youth and elderly, and civic and community endeavors that enhance quality of life.

Batters Up USA is entering its fourth year of supporting the start-up of recreational ball programs for boys and girls. To date, 51 programs have been supported in 24 different states involving about 12,000 youth.

For more information on Batters Up USA and how to apply for an equipment grant, go to BattersUpUSA.org.