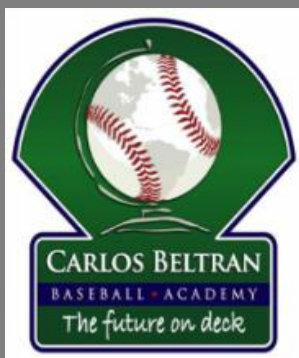




Carlos Beltrán Baseball Academy, Inc.

Introduction and General Information



The **Carlos Beltrán Baseball Academy, Inc.** is a non-profit registered 501 (c)(3) which is a 10-12th grade high school that provides a dynamic learning experience where young people can develop and enhance their athletic abilities while striving for academic excellence.

The Project

For over seven years, three times Gold Glove winning Centerfielder and New York Yankee baseball player, Carlos Beltrán, dreamed of opening a baseball academy in Puerto Rico. As a champion of youth sports and education, Beltrán understood that more than philanthropy, he needed to create a lasting entity that could catalyze social change in Puerto Rico. Carlos Beltrán and his wife Jessica wanted to have a lasting impact on the youth in Puerto Rico. From this dream the Carlos Beltrán Baseball Academy¹ (CBBA) was born. The CBBA opened its doors on August 18, 2011 as a high school specializing in baseball. It graduated its first class in 2013 with **41** students going on to postsecondary education. It currently has 10th, 11th, and 12th grade.

The CBBA's mission is to ***provide a dynamic learning experience where young people can develop and enhance their athletic abilities while striving for academic excellence***. As part of this commitment, the CBBA strives to develop the unique talents of each student and are committed to promoting social and civic responsibility such as the understanding of basic social values that promote moral and ethical conduct and connections between education and life-choices. Ultimately the goal is to empower youth to achieve their dreams through sports, education, and values.

CBBA's vision is to become Puerto Rico's most prestigious Academy specializing in baseball. The Academy is dedicated to the education of adolescents with baseball skills in Puerto Rico to achieve higher education, combining optimally individualized instruction with the integration of traditional and non-traditional skills, investigation, and the use of technology.

Objectives

1. Provide an innovative academic/sports curriculum which engages, develops athletic ability, promotes educational attainment, and athletic growth in a safe, dynamic, and enjoyable learning environment.
2. Develop students in a holistic manner (intellectual, emotional, physical) so that they can become future "Change Agents" improving the quality of life of Puerto Rico.
3. Promote community engagement, as a means where our youth can serve and become active participants in their communities
4. Instills the love of baseball in youth and demonstrates how it can be used as an opportunity for scholarships that help make college accessible to many youths who otherwise would not be able to go on to higher learning and earn a degree.



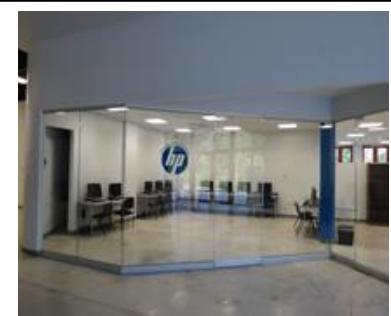
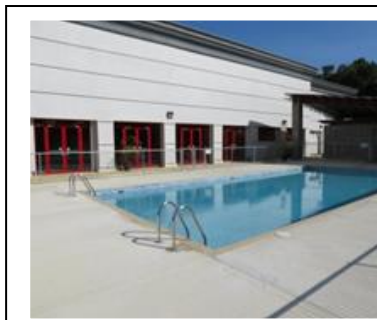
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Facilities

The CBBA is located in the municipality of Florida, PR, at PR Road 6642-Heriberto González Vélez Bypass Km. 10 Florida, Puerto Rico. The main building is approximately 33,000 square feet devoted to provide students with the tools necessary to ensure their maximum academic and athletic development. The facilities includes: administrative offices, lunchroom, gymnasium, swimming pool, running track, showers, locker rooms, outdoor batting cages, pitching mounds, classrooms, and study halls. These facilities are housed in an eco-friendly environment that includes the use natural lighting and water efficient systems.

The facilities include approximately 18 acres of breathtaking land with abundant vegetation and natural hills that have been preserved. Calisthenics, training areas, sidelines and recreational facilities are placed in order to create a university-like campus atmosphere. A half field in compliance with MLB standards was recently completed and a full Major League standard field is planned for development in the future.

CBBA's wants students to understand the equal importance of getting an education and enhancing their athletic skills. For this reason every detail, including the layout of the classrooms, was included in the design to maximize student teacher participation.



Services

- Transportation through five daily routes impacting 80% of Puerto Rico.
- A complete sporting program that centers on development of skills
- Conditioning training
- On site physical therapist with all of the necessary and approved equipment by MLB to treat students on site for any lesions.
- College placement
- Extracurricular activities
- Science laboratory
- Computer laboratory
- WI-FI
- Networking opportunities to meet professional baseball players and other athletes and leaders



Students with Raymond Arrieta and Chi Chi Rodriguez as part of the networking opportunities at CBBA



Students at the gymnasium and with Carlos Beltrán on one of his visits to the CBBA

Population Impacted

The population CBBA provides services to male youths aged 13-18 years old that have baseball skills and are in 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th graders and a grade point average of 2.5 or more.

More than fifty percent (50%) of our students are from low income households living in high poverty areas. Many of the students' parents lack secure employment. Fifty-nine (59%) of the student come from the public school system and fifty percent need individualized assistance, as indicated by psychometric evaluations.

The CBBA currently has 125 students from more than 40 municipalities.

Uniqueness

The CBBA is a specialized high school that provides all of the academic components you would traditionally find in a high school whose focus is to cater to baseball skilled students who can use their talents as a means to access post-secondary opportunities. The CBBA offers an innovative program that engages students who might not have excelled in a traditional classroom. The curriculum used enhances student's analytical, reasoning, computer literacy, science, math, research and problem-solving skills. Moreover, one of the fundamental services provided is **College Placement** which assures college attainment. Throughout the three years that the students are in the CBBA they receive: mentoring from positive role models, youth development seminars and daily workshops, and education that provides the necessary tools for these children to succeed in post-secondary colleges or universities and ultimately be able to have productive lives and sustainable employment opportunities.

Students receive information regarding postsecondary education and career preparation; assistance in completing the FAFSA; information regarding need-based grant aid. In addition, students sports profiles and orientation on the numerous opportunities that they have or will have in relation to their baseball skills, as well as find and obtain either academic or sporting or both scholarships to assure college access so that they can become contributing agents in our society.

The Sporting Program at the CBBA is fundamentally aimed at increasing the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. As part of the sport development, students take courses and training focused on the development of baseball. CBBA's students develop skills and make contacts that can open up exciting opportunities in the sports sector. Many graduates have successfully represented CBBA in local and national competitions, won scholarships to colleges in the USA and gained professional contracts with the MLB (Major League Baseball organization).

The sporting program not only works with the fitness, nutrition, healthy lifestyle, but also we give emphasis to team work, camaraderie, anger management, sport/school balance, diversity, social responsibility, conflict resolution, etc. so that our students are well rounded human beings, and assuring that they are successful once they make the transition from high school student to college student. One of the other things that make our program unique is that we offer our services to Puerto Rico as a whole; we have students from all of the counties that arrive daily transportation that the CBBA provides.

The Results

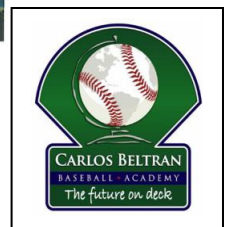
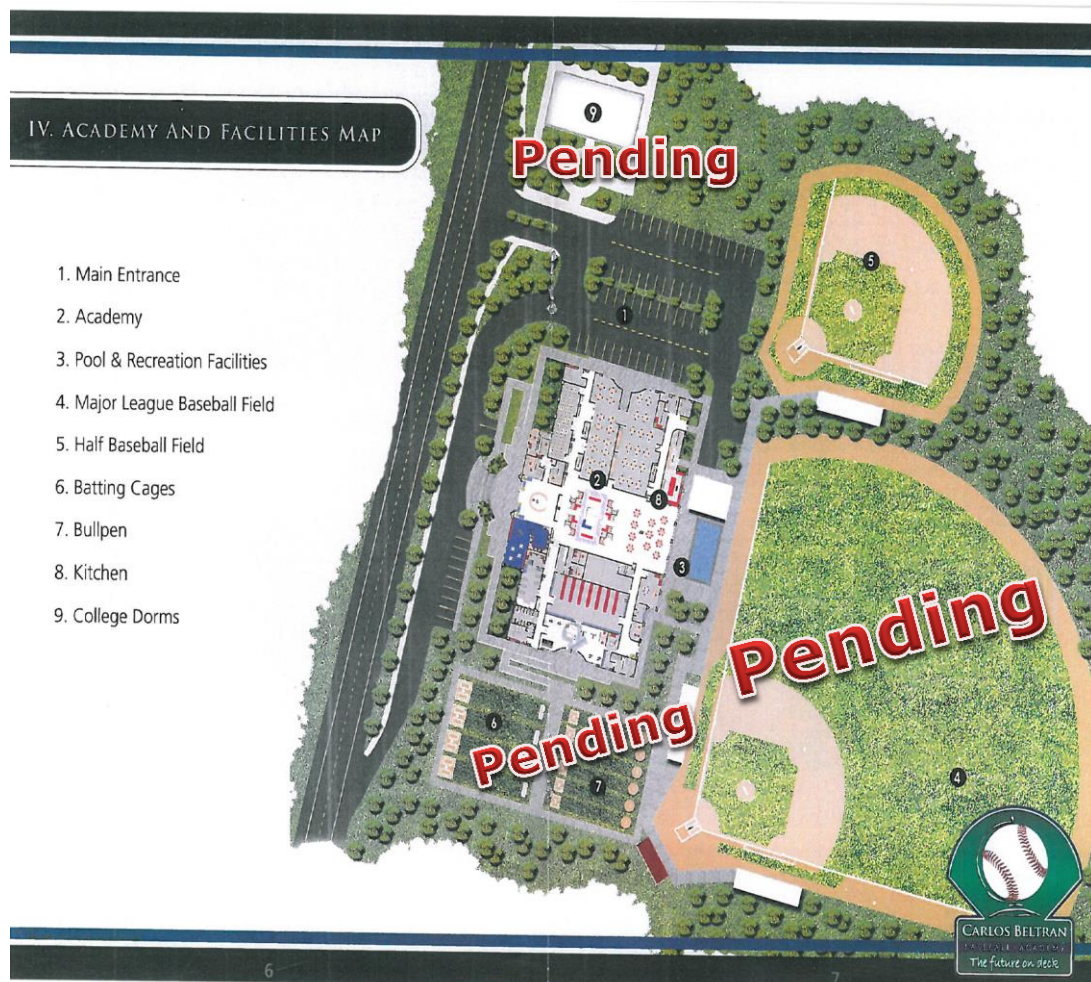
Up to date, the CBBA has graduated **126 students** of which 115 have been able to access college through baseball scholarships. **Eleven** of the students have been able to sign into the MLB professional baseball program assuring a professional career in the baseball field. The main focus of the program is to develop the youth's skills and help them to "market" their skills to the USA and PR universities that are interested in having these students become part of their baseball program. For this reason, the vast majority of our students go on to higher learning institutions in the United States or Puerto Rico with academic and/or sports scholarships. To date we have placed students in **55** different institutions in the USA and PR. *A list of institutions is available upon request.*

The Future

The CBBA has been in operation for 4 years and has had three graduating classes (2013, 2014, and 2015). It is time to start moving the CBBA to the next level so it can impact more youths. The CBBA is evolving and focusing its resources and time to assuring the academic and sports elements of our Program are the most innovative and vanguard for the CBBA's students. The main goals the CBBA has for the future are:

- Create a learning environment which engages young people while developing athletic ability, promoting educational attainment and building personal growth.
- Develop baseball skills in students so that they can use this skill in obtaining postsecondary scholarships and be able to access college and have a profession.
- Promote sports for development vision where sports skills in our youth can be used as an opportunity for scholarships that help make college education possible for low-income students.

Current and Future Facilities Map



The Challenge

Puerto Rico has one of the highest percentages of high school desertion in the United States. This is one of the fundamental social problems that the Island has since these youths then become a social burden with no education, little to none employment opportunities and this usually leads them to a life of crime and drugs.

It has been proven scientifically that athletes mainly develop their kinesthetic intelligence, this is one of the reasons, that as children they get bored easily and are usually not successful in a traditional school environment making it challenging for them to reach optimal academic performance and in worst case, making them possible future school deserters. This problem combined with the economically disadvantaged population that exist in the Islands, makes it very difficult for these youths to aspire to a post-secondary education.

Sport is more than the competition and winning medals. Participation in sport contributes to the physical health of participants who develop cardio-vascular fitness and maintain bone and muscle strength. Sport contributes to social and emotional wellbeing as participants develop feelings of belonging, camaraderie, pride and a sense of achievement. It also is said to be a means for promoting inclusion, health and wellbeing for those outside of mainstream.

The Carlos Beltrán Baseball Academy exists to provide these talented youths with a high school that caters to their needs. The school academic and sport development program has been developed to provide these youths with the stimulants and individual mentoring that they need to assure they graduate from high school.

Since the design of the project, its Founders envisioned the Academy to be one open to ALL students in Puerto Rico. The main issue this vision brings is that the CBBA needs to provide free transportation island wide to any interested student who otherwise would not be able to arrive to school every day since most of the students are from low-economically disadvantage households.

As a non-profit organization, the Carlos Beltrán Baseball Academy depends on the donations of individuals and corporations to strengthen its initiatives. Currently, the funding that comes to us from the fees to our students and donations from our supporters supports the operational costs the academy which are approximately \$1.5 million annually. However, we are not able to invest in improvements, expansions, growth initiative in order to assure that the academy is sustainable and is able to continue to expand its program to reach more youths.

How you can help

The CBBA is reaching out to anyone who wants to support our cause to donate to our transportation fund. We currently provide free transportation to all students so that we can be accessible to any boy who is passionate about baseball and their education.

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