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**CARLOS BELTRAN AND NEW YORK METS FOUNDATION  
STEP UP TO THE PLATE TO DRIVE  
“RBI’S FOR HARLEM RBI”**

**All-Star Centerfielder and Mets Charitable Foundation Team Up  
To Donate \$1,000 Per Beltran RBI in 2008  
To Harlem RBI**

**NEW YORK, N.Y., May 19, 2008** – Harlem RBI announced today that **Mets All-Star Centerfielder Carlos Beltran** and the Mets Foundation have partnered yet again on a year-long effort to promote and support Harlem RBI. The multifaceted partnership is anchored by the “RBI’s for Harlem RBI” fundraising program in which the Mets Foundation will match Beltran’s \$500 donation for a total contribution of \$1,000 for each of his RBI’s during the 2008 season. **Last season, Beltran and the New York Mets Foundation donated \$112,000 to Harlem RBI** resulting from Beltran’s 112 runs batted in.

Harlem RBI PSA’s with Beltran and Mets General Manager Omar Minaya will continue to increase awareness of Harlem RBI’s efforts to inspire East Harlem youth to recognize their potential and realize their dreams. The spots will air on Mets related programming on SportsNet New York (SNY), the year-round television home of the Mets, other television outlets in the tri-state area and in New York City Yellow Taxis.

“We are honored that Carlos and the Mets Foundation are continuing their commitment to Harlem RBI and the youth of East Harlem,” said Richard Berlin, Harlem RBI Executive Director. “Carlos’ and the Mets’ generosity make them true heroes in the East Harlem community.”

In addition to raising funds for Harlem RBI, Beltran will conduct a “Home & Home Clinic Series” at Shea Stadium and at Harlem RBI for program youth this summer. The clinic on the field at Shea will focus on baseball skills and the clinic at Harlem RBI will stress the importance of building literacy skills. The Mets and Beltran also will host Harlem RBI participants at Shea this summer at a Mets game. In addition, Beltran has donated a Luxury Suite for a group of deserving kids for use later this summer at Shea Stadium.

**About Harlem RBI:**

Harlem RBI began in 1991, when a group of volunteers transformed an abandoned, garbage-strewn lot in the middle of East Harlem into two magnificent baseball diamonds for the children of the neighborhood. Harlem RBI’s mission is to use baseball and softball and the power of teams to provide inner-city youth with opportunities to Play, to Learn, and to Grow, inspiring them to recognize their potential and realize their dreams.

Harlem RBI, a 501(c)3 organization, is a dynamic youth development program located in East Harlem, New York. Harlem RBI prides itself on being a community-based organization that successfully integrates youth development principles with the benefits of sports activity and team participation. A staff of 30 full-time professionals—with the support of a dedicated corps of over 200 part-time staff, volunteers, and interns—implement year-round programs for more than 700 boys and girls, ages 6-21. Membership on a baseball or softball team opens the door to participation in an array of exemplary programs that support youth as they grow from vulnerable children into resilient young adults. For more information visit [www.harlemrbi.org](http://www.harlemrbi.org).