



April 1, 2020

Dear Friends:

Babe Ruth said, “It’s hard to beat a person who never gives up.” The Congressional Baseball Game for Charity is one of the most looked forward to social events on the calendar in DC. This bipartisan summer tradition has been going strong since 1909, with only a few interruptions – the last one was from 1958-1961 during the Vietnam War. This game doesn’t happen because of winning or losing, it happens because there are vulnerable children and families in the DC area that depend on our charity beneficiaries for help.

The date set for this year’s game – June 10, 2020 – falls within the parameters of the Stay At Home Orders from DC, Maryland and Virginia announced this week. While we are not giving up, we are postponing the game in the interest of the health and safety of everyone involved. The Board of Congressional Sports for Charity has consulted with the Managers of the Democrat and Republican teams, as well as the Washington Nationals, and agreed that the game will be postponed until a session date in the early fall. While we have discussed some specific dates, we will wait until the calendar for MLB has been reset before finalizing the exact date and sharing it publicly. We want certainty as much as you do – which is why we are waiting for the Nationals and the Congressional schedules to be confirmed.

In the meantime, we have been doing all that we can to fill the gaps for local charities that are still working to meet the needs of our most vulnerable children and families. Thanks to sponsors who have been able to cut checks early, we have provided more than \$60,000 in emergency grants to charities providing food, shelter, safety from domestic violence and other critical services throughout the pandemic. Those funds are already in the hands of the charities that need them.

These needs are not going to go away, and likely will grow as the pandemic continues. We will continue to help our charity partners when and how we are able. To this end, we urge anyone who is able to sponsor and cut checks early to please do so. As an added incentive, any sponsorships that are paid prior to the original date of the game – June 10, 2020 – will receive a team bat, as well as a special additional thank you during the game in the fall.

The spirit of the Congressional Baseball Game is all about coming together to help those who need it. Now, as ever, we need to pull together as a complete community and lift up those who need our help. Our strength, and yours, will help us get to the other side of this crisis – we are not giving up, and we know you aren’t either.

If you have questions, or would like more information, please contact Michelle Payne via email michelle@congressionalsportsforcharity.org or phone 202-251-6786.

Thank you for standing with us in both the easy and the hard times. We are truly grateful to have you as a part of the Congressional Baseball for Charity family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Thompson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ryan Thompson
President