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Immediate Release

BELTRAN TO DELIVER “RBI’S FOR HARLEM RBI!”

NEW YORK METS STAR CARLOS BELTRAN TO RAISE FUNDS WHEN HE DRIVES IN RUNS FOR HARLEM RBI’S “REAL KIDS” PROGRAM

***Carlos Beltran to be named “Honorary Commissioner” of the
Harlem RBI REAL Kids Program during Monday, April 17
3:00 PM Press Conference at Shea Stadium***

(New York- April 17, 2006) - New York Mets star center fielder, Carlos Beltran, has been named “Honorary Commissioner” of **Harlem RBI** and in return will donate \$500 per RBI he drives in during the 2006 Major League Baseball season with proceeds going directly to *Harlem RBI’s REAL Kids* Program.

Launched in (1999), the award-winning Harlem RBI *REAL (Reading and Enrichment Academy for Learning) Kids* program serves over 240 youth, age 9-12 each summer with a seven-week, full day academic and baseball camp that helps youth develop literacy and social skills while staying active during the summer months.

In addition to raising funds for Harlem *RBI’s REAL Kids*, Mr. Beltran will also conduct a “Home & Home Clinic Series” at both Shea Stadium and at **Harlem RBI** for children in the program 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 reading building literacy skills. The Mets and Beltran will also host all REAL Kids participants at Shea this summer at a Mets game and Beltran has donated a Luxury Suite at Shea Stadium for a group of deserving REAL Kids participants at the end of the summer.

“I am thrilled that Mr. Beltran has pledged so much support for such a great cause” said Harlem RBI Executive Director Richard Berlin. “His generosity will not only benefit Harlem RBI, but also shows Carlos and the New York Mets to be true heroes in the East Harlem community.”

The dream of 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.

About Harlem RBI:

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 18 full-time professionals—with the support of a dedicated corps of over 125 part-time staff, volunteers, and interns—implement year-round programs for 600 boys and girls, ages 7-18. 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