

## 2016 FCA Dominican Republic Mission Trip

Today was the first day in town and just like last year, the trip has already been a very eye opening experience. I'm enjoying my time here and growing as a person and a follower of Jesus Christ. Just being here and sharing the word of God and laughing and learning with some amazing kids. Getting killed in today's game was not a highlight, but it was definitely a great time to play against such a high level of competition. It is currently international signing day down here and to watch the 13 and 14 year olds tryout for something that could possibly change their life forever. Just being able to put a smile on these kid's faces and make their day better. Not only did they enjoy playing, but I also really enjoyed playing with these kids. I gave my own personal testimony today and I shared how last year I was very close to not being able to come to the DR. However, if God really wanted me to go he would make it happen and it did. That first trip was life changing, but it also made me want to come back down again the following year and here I am again. I can't wait to see what the rest of the week brings, I look forward to helping out in the orphanages and sugar cane villages as well playing some more great baseball. Mom and Dad I love you guys very much, and I thank you for allowing me the opportunity to come down to the DR and do God's work.

Love, Matt Sanfilippo

Today was the second day of the trip and was a much more competitive game. Unlike the first day we played kids at more of our skill level which made it much more enjoyable and allowed me to with stand the heat a little better today. We were able to interact with the Dominican players who either joined our team or we were playing against much more than the first day who were more focused on the scouts. I know just two days into the trip I can already feel myself already becoming more humble and appreciative for what I have. After the game we were able to hand out a lot of cleats and other equipment to little kids in needs and it was very rewarding to see how appreciative for new stuff or even used stuff because compared to what they have now it is a crazy upgrade. This is my second trip that I was blessed to be able to attend and I was blown away with how great of a time I had last time and I can already tell just two days into this trip that it will exceed my time I had last time. Mom I love you so much and can't thank you enough for helping me pay to go on this trip, thank you for allowing me to grow not only as a man but a man under God.

Love, Daniel Brown

Today was the fourth day of the trip and it was a very busy day. We started the day by visiting a batea village and interacting with all of the kids. It was very easy to keep them happy and we all had fun playing with them. You could tell they don't get to interact a lot and it was great we were given the opportunity to make them happy. After that we left to feed some people who live by the field and they were all happy to see us as well. It felt great to be able to help them and give them some very good food. After everybody was fed we headed out to play a game and it went well. We were hitting very well and even got a couple home runs. I got to give my testimony and I talked about how getting the opportunity to join FCA has helped me learn to give all of my life to Jesus Christ and how I am so thankful for all the blessings God has given me and all the opportunities I've had to share my faith. I'm very thankful that God blessed us with a great day today where we were able to help so many people!

Love, Chris Moon

Today was a very busy day in the Dominican Republic, we visited the DSL Angels facility and got to watch them play. The rain didn't help us out that much in getting in all of what we wanted to. Not being able to speak Spanish may be very difficult at times but it doesn't seem like it makes that big of a difference when we are only out there to have fun! We talked to them as best as we can and I loved getting to know some of the boys. This was our last game and it was one to remember, no matter what the score of the game it seemed as if they were just out here to have fun and when we switched up teams and had a lot of laughs. I gave my testimony today and I am glad I did it was good to get that out and I was blessed to have a translator to tell the Dominicans my story.

Love, Tyler Porter