



Bakersfield Blaze Professional Baseball
Historic Sam Lynn Ballpark
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Bakersfield Blaze Present Donation to Goodwill
Check Just One Piece of Large-Scale Partnership between Organizations

Bakersfield, CA – When athletes and coaches pay fines to a mysterious entity called “the league,” where does that money end up? In Bakersfield, the answer is that it becomes a statement of good will.

More specifically, Goodwill Industries of South Central California.

Every season, as athletes, managers and coaches rack up tabs for ejections and other missteps, the California League collects fines as punishment; and every year, at season’s end, the California League takes the entirety of those penalty fines and splits it between the ten teams. Each team, then, chooses how to spend its share. For the Blaze, the choice was a no-brainer.

This past season, the Bakersfield Blaze and Goodwill partnered to bring fans Goodwill Giving Wednesdays, a ticketing promotion that awarded half-off deals to any fan that carted a donation item to the ballpark. Fans responded tremendously to the offer, leading to bins upon bins heaped full of clothes, non-perishables, and even a computer.

In addition, Goodwill helped the Blaze with the team’s annual job fair, an especially critical task during a time when there are many in need of work, and so few with the means to find it.

“We are absolutely thrilled to partner with an organization that does such amazing work,” noted Bakersfield Blaze second year General Manager Elizabeth Martin. “The Blaze hope to continue giving back to the community, and what better way than to contribute to a group that has led the charge in charity for so many years.”

For more information, please contact either Dan Besbris, Blaze Director of Media Relations at dbesbris@bakersfieldblaze.com, or Ken Beurmann, Goodwill Vice President of Business Development.

The Blaze play 70 regular season home games in Historic Sam Lynn Ballpark, a stadium entering its 71st year of baseball. 2012 season tickets and *new* fireworks and souvenir miniplan packages are available at monster discounts. For more information call (661) 716-4487 or go to www.bakersfieldblaze.com to see a full promotional schedule.

The Bakersfield Blaze is a charter member of the California League, and the Class-A Advanced Affiliate of the Cincinnati Reds.

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