

# WE CAN HANDLE THE TRUTH



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This is me in my element, using baseball to build confidence and bring joy to kids in my community, especially my own.

But as I looked around the field, something felt off. Most of the kids were white. I used to chalk that up to “who signs up.” Then I dug in and learned what’s really shaping the roster.

Black and Latinx youth are about twice as likely to live in places with more limited park access and less nice parks. Kids from households earning under \$25K are far less likely to play sports. And kids from low-income families are much more likely to quit because the costs stack up fast: gear, fees, travel, even time.

In my town, options are everywhere. In many low-income communities, which are often communities of color because of the history of segregation, the nearest safe and nice field is far away, programs are underfunded, and families are already stretched.

It hit me that my ability to coach and serve on the Little League Board is its own kind of advantage. I can volunteer without needing to turn that time into income. I get to take advantage of a system built to make it easier for people like me to show up, lead, have this incredible experience with our own kids, and hopefully create the same for other kids in our community, who most of the time look just like mine.