



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**The New York Mets Foundation and KaBOOM! Put Kids First by
Increasing Access to Play in Far Rockaway**

200 Community Volunteers Join Forces to Build a New Playground with The Child Center of NY

Volunteers from the New York Mets Foundation, The Child Center of NY and the community will join KaBOOM! on Thursday, May 30 to transform an empty site into a kid-designed, state-of-the-art playground in just six hours at the Dix Avenue Apartments. The new playground will help make play the easy choice for kids and families in Far Rockaway.

Play is essential to physical, creative, cognitive, social and emotional development. Currently, the kids in Far Rockaway are in need of quality places to play. In March, kids from the surrounding community came together to draw their dream playground. The new playground is based off their drawings and will provide thousands of kids with a great, safe place to play over its lifetime.

This playground is part of a broader effort led by the New York Mets Foundation and KaBOOM! to ensure communities have great PLAYces for kids and families. It will be the first build by the New York Mets Foundation. Through this partnership, the New York Mets Foundation and KaBOOM! are creating an oasis where kids feel valued and loved, and where their potential is supported, nurtured and celebrated.

WHEN: Thursday, May 30

8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Kick-off ceremony

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Best viewing of playground construction

1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Final construction phase

2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Ribbon-cutting ceremony

(Times approximate)

WHERE: Dix Avenue Apartments

22-45 Dix Avenue

Far Rockaway, NY 11691

WHO: Hundreds of community volunteers

New York Mets Ownership

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About The Child Center of NY

The Child Center of NY began in 1953 as a children's counseling center in Queens. Today, we are a powerful community presence throughout NYC, reaching more than 35,000 children and their families each year. Our mission is to strengthen children and families with skills, opportunities, and emotional support to build healthy, successful lives. We guide children from birth to adulthood with evidence-based, innovative programs that engage them with school and help them become secure, capable, and confident.

About The New York Mets Foundation

The New York Mets Foundation funds and promotes a variety of educational, social and athletic programs and other charitable causes. Found in 1963, it continues its mission to invest in the future of our community, and to provide assistance to myriad organizations that benefit children and others in need.

About KaBOOM!

KaBOOM! is the national non-profit dedicated to giving all kids – especially those living in poverty – the childhood they deserve through great, safe places to play. KaBOOM! inspires communities to make play the easy choice and works to drive the national discussion about the importance of PLAYces. KaBOOM! has collaborated with partners to build or improve more than 17,000 playspaces, engage over 1.5 million volunteers and serve nearly 10 million kids. To learn why play matters for all kids, visit kaboom.org and join the conversation at twitter.com/kaboom, facebook.com/kaboom and instagram.com/kaboom. #playmatters #PLAYceforKids