

PO Box 14608 GREENSBORO, NC 27415-4608

604 MEADOW ST. GREENSBORO, NC 27405

336.274.1538

FAX: 336.274.7347

1.800.632.1400

www.chsnc.org



For Immediate Release

Contact: Becky Wrisley
Director of Marketing & Communications
336-274-1538

Children's Home Society and the Hickory Crawdads

Team Up to Bring it Home for Kids

February 18, 2009 - Greensboro, N.C. – The Hickory Crawdads have teamed up with Children's Home Society of NC (CHS) for the second year to support children awaiting adoption and children in foster care. The *Bring it Home for Kids* campaign raises critical funds to help recruit and prepare families for adoption and foster care. It is also a great a great way to cheer on the Crawdads in 2009!

“We are excited about the partnership with CHS through the 2009 *Bring it Home for Kids* campaign,” said Charlie Downs, Assistant General Manager for the Hickory Crawdads. “It is a great opportunity to help make a difference in a child's life and in our community.”

The idea behind *Bring it Home for Kids* is that for every run the Crawdads score during games at L.P. Frans Stadium, businesses and individuals pledge anywhere from 25 cents to 30 dollars as a donation to CHS. The program ties in great opportunities for businesses to participate in community efforts and to bring employees together around the program.

Every Crawdads player that crosses home plate will represent another run scored for the *Bring it Home for Kids* program. The more runs the Crawdads score, the more support will be raised for the benefit of children in our community. The Crawdads have averaged about 355 runs scored per season during home games at L.P. Frans Stadium.

“We're excited about the *Bring it Home for Kids* program in so many ways,” says Brian Maness, director of marketing with Children's Home Society. “Teaming up with the Crawdads is a perfect fit, given our shared commitment to families. For CHS, *Bring it Home for Kids* presents not only an opportunity to raise needed funds, but also the potential to raise awareness about the needs of children North Carolina communities.”

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Four baseball teams in NC are participating in the *Bring It Home for Kids* campaign this year.

“We experienced great success last year with the *Bring it Home for Kids* campaign in Hickory,” said Becky Wrisley, *Bring it Home for Kids* program director. “We’re thrilled to provide a fun and easy way for the business community to be involved in making a difference in the lives of children awaiting adoption.”

Participating teams include the Durham Bulls, the Greensboro Grasshoppers, the Hickory Crawdads, and the Kinston Indians. To participate in or gain more information about the *Bring it Home for Kids* program, please contact Becky Wrisley at 1-800-632-1400 or bwrисley@chsnc.org.

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The Hickory Crawdads are a Class A affiliate of the Pittsburgh Pirates. The 2009 season begins the Crawdads 17th year in Minor League Baseball. For more information on ticket and group packages, please visit www.hickorycrawdads.com or call 1-800-322-3000.

CHS is a statewide, non-profit, non-sectarian private adoption and foster care agency serving children in families in North Carolina for over 100 years. CHS is licensed by the NC Department of Health and Human Services - Division of Social Services. CHS is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children. CHS is a member of the Child Welfare League of America, Children and Family Services Association of North Carolina, and Children's Home Society of America. For more information on CHS, please visit www.chsnc.org or call 1-800-632-1400.

