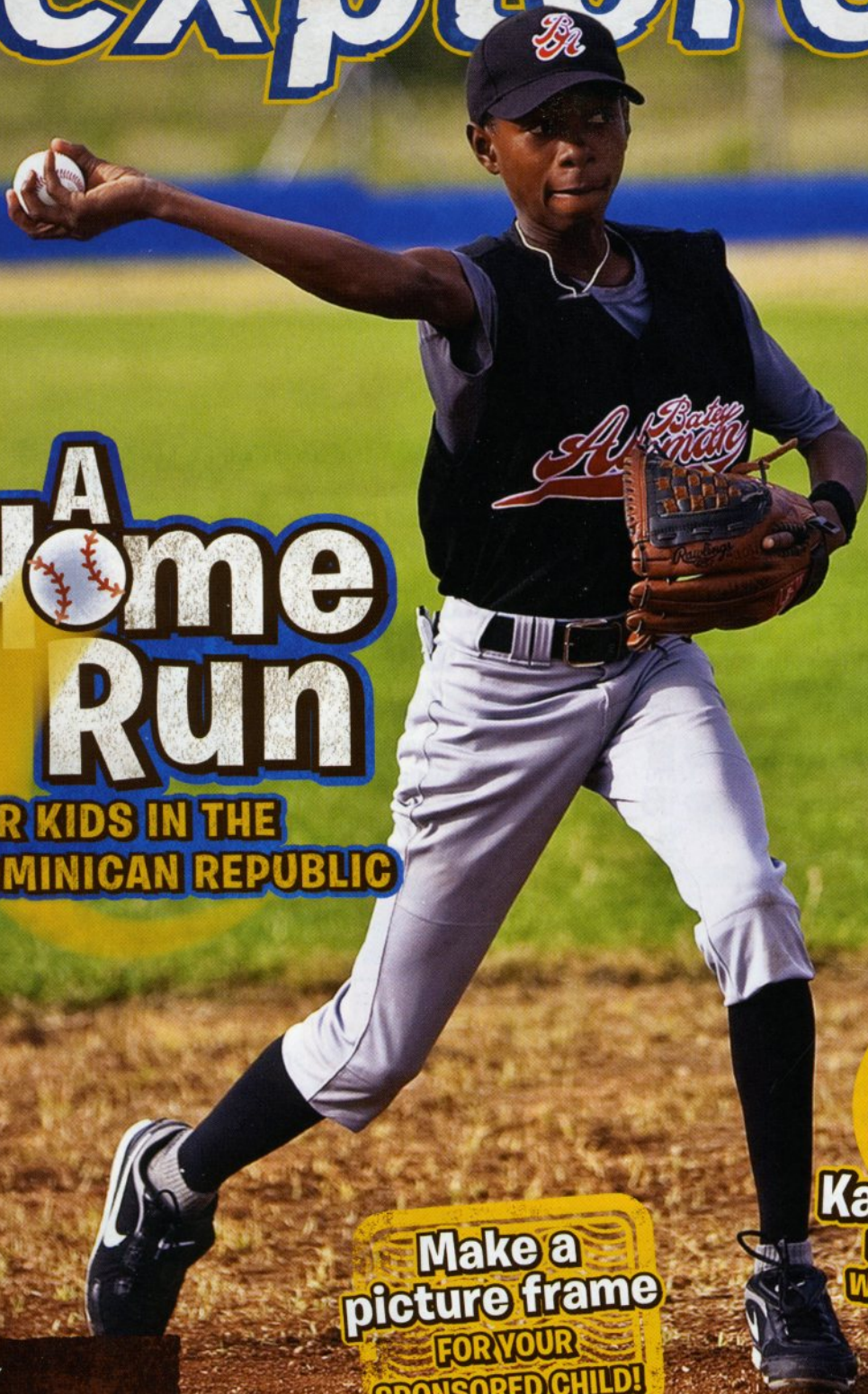




# compassion explorer



## A Home Run

FOR KIDS IN THE  
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



**Kaitlin's wish**  
BRINGS CLEAN  
WATER TO KENYA

Make a  
picture frame  
FOR YOUR  
SPONSORED CHILD!

WELCOME TO MY WORLD!

# Home Run

FOR KIDS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



# Read how kids in the Dominican Republic got the equipment they needed to play ball.

The Dominican Republic is a beautiful island in the Caribbean. It is famous for its white sand beaches and clear-blue water. Many people vacation here. They play on the beaches, stay in fancy hotels, and shop for expensive jewelry.

But the poorest kids in the Dominican Republic haven't even been to the beach. They live in houses made of rusted tin and scrapped wood. Their dusty neighborhoods are littered with trash, and they have a hard time finding clean places to play. And they love to play!

Baseball is their favorite sport, but they can't afford bats and mitts. So they make mitts out of milk cartons and use sticks for bats.

This is how Compassion-assisted kids used to play in the poor neighborhood of Batey Aleman (Bah-TAY Ahll-ey-MAHN). But last fall the kids were given a dream gift!

They received a new baseball field, new balls, bats, mitts and uniforms — and Albert Pujols, one of the best baseball players in the world, came to give them some pointers!

➤ TURN PAGE FOR MORE



## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

<b>CAPITAL CITY</b>	Santo Domingo
<b>POPULATION</b>	9,956,648
<b>RELIGIONS</b>	Roman Catholic 95%, other 5%
<b>LANGUAGES</b>	Spanish
<b>CURRENCY</b>	Dominican peso





Take Me Out to the Ball Game ...

A church in Batey Aleman teamed up with the Pujols Family Foundation to bring the first big day of fun to these Compassion-sponsored kids.

Excitedly, the boys took off their torn clothes and put on their crisp new uniforms. They had a parade, prayed, then walked onto their clean new field to play ball!



“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

– Jeremiah 29:11

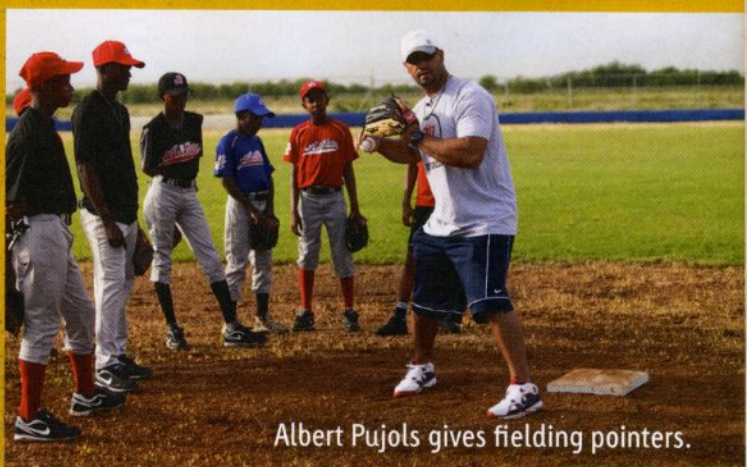


## DOMINICANS CAN HIT IT out of the park!

- Cuban immigrants brought baseball to the Dominican Republic in the mid-1860s. It is most popular in the southeast where there are sugar plantations called *bateys*.
- Today, besides Americans, Dominicans make up the most players in the U.S. major and minor baseball leagues.
- Many top players in baseball, like Pedro Martínez, Albert Pujols, and Robinson Canó, came from this part of the country.



Teaming Up to Pray



Albert Pujols gives fielding pointers.



Most kids use sticks for bats and have no field to play in.