



United States Youth Volleyball League
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News Release

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For Immediate Release

USYVL Brings Relocated Hurricane Katrina Evacuees to Celebrity Volleyball Event and Clinic

Hawthorne, CA, September 14 – The United States Youth Volleyball League (USYVL) has made arrangements for Hurricane Katrina evacuees hosted in Los Angeles to attend a celebrity volleyball clinic and tournament, the JAYO Invitational, at Will Rogers State Beach in Pacific Palisades on Saturday, September 17. The JAYO Invitational, a charity event founded by Jason Olive, former volleyball player, model and actor, has chosen the Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund as its charity to benefit from this year's proceeds. Olympian and former "King of the Beach" Sinjin Smith, along with other professional beach volleyball players, will provide a clinic for children from 9 a.m. until noon. Beginning at 1 p.m., a celebrity beach volleyball tournament will take place featuring Olympic gold medalists Kerri Walsh, Dain Blanton, Eric Fonoimoana, and other top players including: Casey Jennings, Todd Rogers, Jason Ring, Albert Hanneman, Adam Jewell and Chip McCaw. Joined by top celebrities from Film and TV including: Amber Valleta, Joe

Lando, Jennifer Freeman, Ashlie Brillault, Galen Gering Arthur Chien, Burton Roberts, Charles Divins, Kellan Lutz, and J. Eddie Peck.

“After we heard about numerous hurricane evacuees being relocated to Los Angeles, we thought we could do something to help by providing a much needed diversion after the unprecedented chaos that many of these people experienced in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast,” said Randy Sapoznik, Executive Director for the nonprofit USYVL, a national youth volleyball program. “We’ll give them a fun day at the beach.”

Sapoznik coordinated efforts with Los Angeles Councilman Eric Garcetti, to provide bus transportation from the Dream Center in Echo Park, where the hurricane guests are being housed, to the event. Furthermore, Sapoznik arranged for sponsors including, Vosh International, Asics and IQ Sportswear to donate beach attire and a goodie bag of “beach supplies” for each family member staying at the Dream Center. After the clinic, a lunch will be served to Hurricane Katrina guests.

“We’re a small nonprofit organization, but we thought this is the least we could do to assist,” said Sapoznik. “Also, it’s terrific that JAYO volleyball event participants can personally meet some of the hurricane survivors.”

For more information on the USYVL, visit www.usyvl.org. For more information on the JAYO Invitational, visit www.jayoinvitational.com.