



NEWTOWN
CONNECTION
SPORTS | HEALTH | EDUCATION

*Imagination shared creates collaboration
Collaboration creates community
Community inspires social change*

- Terry Tempest Williams



Throughout his Major League Baseball career, **Newtown Connection Co-Founder Ian Desmond** has had the opportunity to participate in a variety of youth development programs, making an impact across the country. While a member of the Washington Nationals, Ian was a member of the board of directors of the **Washington Nationals Youth Baseball Academy (YBA)** and was actively involved in supporting the academy's "YBA PLAY" program at its inception. In YBA PLAY, Ian was encouraged to see a youth

development program that included academic enrichment, physical activity, and health education – and one that imparts a lasting impact on the lives of school-age children in the underserved community.

This program allows youth to participate in modified, inclusive, and fast-paced baseball activities, drills, and games to develop their skills. In addition, the program uses competitive baseball and softball experiences to promote character development and an active lifestyle, instilling the values of **leadership, accountability, teamwork, and the pursuit of excellence.**

We are proud to have the Washington Nationals Youth Baseball Academy as one of our founding partners at Newtown Connection.

For more information, please visit the YBA's website at www.nats4good.org/youth-baseball-academy/. You can also browse images of the YBA in action:

www.instagram.com/explore/locations/102592466/washington-nationals-youth-baseball-academy

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