



PRESS RELEASE

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Asheboro Zookeepers don custom jerseys in fundraiser for Randolph Partnership for Children

ASHEBORO, N.C. (July 25, 2022) — Randolph Partnership for Children (RPC) Executive Director Lisa Hayworth announced today that just over \$1800 was raised during RPC Night with the Zookeepers, sponsored by Pinnacle Financial Partners on July 15. Players wore jerseys custom designed by RPC for the game against the Peninsula Pilots. A silent auction was held for the jerseys during the first eight innings.

“It’s important for nonprofit organizations to connect with their communities in many different ways, and few ways are more fun than a summertime game of baseball!” Hayworth said. “We’re grateful to Pinnacle Financial Partners and the Asheboro Zookeepers for this event, which helped fans learn more about our programs and services for young children and their families. The ability to fundraise for our mission in such a festive, high-energy environment strengthens our effectiveness and impact. So much about baseball mirrors our priorities, including providing opportunities for family time in the great outdoors and celebrating active play in grand fashion.”

RPC set up a booth inside the park during the event to give out free books to children in attendance. Staff members also provided information about RPC services and resources for young children and their families in Randolph County.

Four-year-old Gabe Hancock was escorted by Chris Hancock and Emily Stevens to the mound, where he threw out the first pitch. A second honorary pitch was thrown by 11-year-old Landon Macon to officially start the game. The Zookeepers were ultimately driven into a tenth inning, which led to a tough loss for the team.

Upon the conclusion of the game, auction winners received the jerseys off the backs of the players ceremoniously as the names of those with the winning bids were called up to receive their jerseys in front of the crowd.

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About the Randolph Partnership for Children: Since 1999, the Randolph Partnership for Children (RPC), a non-profit organization, has positively impacted the lives of Randolph County’s young children. As the community’s lead organization for young children and their families, RPC works with and through diverse agencies, individuals, organizations, and communities to ensure all children enter school healthy and ready to succeed in school and life. RPC is a United Way agency. For more information, visit www.randolphkids.org.

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Landon Macon, left, and Gabe Hancock at the mound for the first pitches. Photo by Anna Bowser, courtesy of Asheboro Zookeepers



Gabe Hancock gets a congratulatory hug from Zeke. Photo by Anna Bowser, courtesy of Asheboro Zookeepers



Carson Ozmer of the Asheboro Zookeepers at bat wearing his custom jersey. Photo by Anna Bowser, courtesy of Asheboro Zookeepers