



NEWS RELEASE
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**JAMAAL MAGLOIRE FOUNDATION AND LONGO'S TEAM UP
TO FEED 270 FAMILIES FOR THE HOLIDAYS**

TORONTO - Toronto Raptors Assistant Coach and Community Ambassador Jamaal 'Big Kat' Magloire and TSN sportscaster Jack Armstrong hosted 'Above The Rim' on December 16, an exclusive virtual fundraising event benefitting the Jamaal Magloire Foundation. More than 150 attendees tuned in to hang out with the Big Kat and his surprise guests including Raptors starters Fred VanVleet and OG Anunoby, as well as Raekwon The Chef, Maestro Fresh Wes and Brandan Duke The DJ.

This new holiday initiative was an opportunity for attendees to connect directly with celebrated Toronto Raptors stars, legendary rap/hip hop artists and musicians, all while giving back to the GTA community. More importantly, all event ticket donations were matched by Longo's to provide food for families-in-need this holiday season.

"Basketball is my job, but philanthropy is my life," said Magloire. "We are so grateful to our presenting sponsor Longo's helping us double our impact in providing for 270 families, far exceeding our initial goal of 200. This outpouring of support has blown me away."



The Scarborough native has always been about supporting the community, and his dedication to helping others is clearly influencing this young group of NBA players.

"My goal for 2021 personally is to do more in the community, be more involved," Anunoby told viewers at the event. "Above the Rim is a start, but I want to do even more."

Fred VanVleet joined the show along with daughter Sanaa, and emphasized the importance of being a good role model. "Obviously a lot of different issues are weighing on all of us, and you just try to be the best person you can be, stated VanVleet. "Hopefully that impacts other people and you can be a motivation to somebody somewhere, so they can find some type of guidance and hope in your story."

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Jamaal Magloire Foundation

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Magloire is very intentional about his philanthropic efforts, working with Longo's to ensure that these families receive gift cards to shop with dignity, and purchase what they need most over the holidays. His foundation team selected committed community organizations, and will be delivering the gift cards to families from following groups:

- Birkdale Women's Shelter
- Agincourt Community Services Association
- Flemingdon Food Bank
- The Children's Breakfast Clubs
- Phoenix Basketball League
- SMT Titans Basketball Club

"It's amazing to see people giving back to help others in times of need, especially during this very challenging year with the global pandemics of COVID-19 and racial injustice."

Despite being socially distant, 2020 has been a very busy year for the Jamaal Magloire Foundation. It has continued to provide mentorship programs and scholarships. With long-standing partner, Children's Breakfast Clubs, the Foundation helped to feed 5,000 kids during this difficult time. Virtual events were introduced with Coach Jamaal offering online basketball clinics to keep kids active and learning. The Foundation was also on the frontlines providing warm breakfasts to more than 1,500 healthcare professionals at Scarborough area hospitals.



The mission of Jamaal Magloire Foundations is to improve the lives of underserved youth by helping them to obtain and nurture academic and social skills through the arts, sports and community. For more information, visit www.jamaalmagloirefoundation.com.

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