First Break Academy Successfully Conducts 2019 “Chase Return the Serve” Event for 200 Local Youth

Our Goal was to have an event that reflected the community including talent, youth and community partners. “Fun and Educational for the kids was what we kept in mind as we planned and executed the event” according to Executive Director, Jerome Jones. Carson Mayor Pro Tem Cedric Hicks attended the event along with Collegiate Tennis Players, College Coaches, Celebrities, Pro Tennis Players and an army of Volunteers.
The Event featured:

**Tennis-Tennis-Tennis**
Four tennis courts were decked out with banners, balloons, and lined for various ability and age levels. Each court was staffed with professional Coaches and an army of volunteers. The kids all experienced an hour of top-notch tennis instruction which was delivered in a fun age appropriate manner.

**Fun-Safe-Summer Education Station**
Not just a station to see a shiny police car! This station featured community partners (CHP, LA County Sheriff, LA County Life Guard). Fun/safety in the community, on the highway and in the water were stressed. Kids were able to interact with the representatives from these agencies, ask questions, touch and feel the various emergency cars, trucks, motorcycles...
ACE Role Model Education Station
In honor of the late humanitarian and tennis great, Arthur Ashe who was one of the founders of the NJTL (National Junior Tennis and Learning program), the USTA (United States Tennis Association) Foundation and NJTL are celebrating the 50-year anniversary of the program. This education station was set up featuring authentic Arthur Ashe memorabilia, photos, books authored by Ashe and a moderator.

ABC’s of Tennis “Jump Rope” Station
Mike Fry considered the world’s best in the sport of jump rope. He entertained and taught the proper technique of one of the world’s most universal and fun activities that crosses over perfectly to tennis by improving balance, foot speed and movement.

Life is full of Obstacles Course
An 85’ inflatable obstacle course followed by our own obstacle course made up of cones, hoops, and mini wading pools. This station was set up and manned by a certified personal trainer who motivated the kids as they made their way through the maze of obstacles.
To wrap the event up, a Mexican Food Lunch was served where everybody enjoyed quesadillas, tacos, chips and salsa. The kids boarded their busses, cars and vans exhausted from another great event by First Break Academy at the Dignity Health Sports Park.