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Blackhawks host CHA kids at 2nd annual skating and teambuilding clinic sponsored by 1 World Sports *Emery, others inspire youth, encourage good sportsmanship*

CHICAGO – The Chicago Blackhawks, along with 1 World Sports, hosted the second annual “Event to Inspire” on Jan. 19 - a hockey clinic and “Meet and Greet” with 50 children from the Chicago Housing Authority at Johnny’s Ice House, 2550 W. Madison Street.

Blackhawk goalie Ray Emery taught the fundamentals of hockey to CHA kids – most of which had never laced up the skates. At the end of the clinic, the kids applied their new skills and even got a chance to score on Emery.

CHA resident Aja Collins said she learned how to be a good teammate and the importance of confidence.

“I had so much fun,” she said. “I skated with my friends... and I can skate a little faster than them. And I got to try on a Blackhawks jersey.”

Kevin Delahny, the Blackhawks skills coach, was also on hand to give pointers and provide encouragement.

The event aimed to foster leadership and teamwork in youth through sports and other recreational activities.

Hannah Merens, a volunteer with 1 World Sports for the past two years, said: “I started at the “Event to Inspire” last year and, ever since, I’ve been fully devoted to this cause. It is such a unique bond that 1 World shares with CHA. Both organizations are really looking to better the lives and experiences of these kids who are so determined and driven. And I am so inspired by the kids I’ve worked with that I’ve become a better person and a better mentor.”

The top seven CHA students participating in “Event to Inspire” will attend a Blackhawks game in March.

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