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It’s No Bull – Deng Loves da Kids
NBA star buys 400 gifts for annual CHA children’s party

WHAT: Ninth Annual CHA Holiday Party
WHO: Luol Deng, Chicago Bulls Forward
Derrick Rose, Chicago Bulls Guard and other Bulls reps
400 children living in CHA buildings
WHERE: John G. Shedd Aquarium, 1200 S. Lake Shore Drive*
WHEN: 3 – 5 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 14

CHICAGO – Call it a triple three-peat.

For the ninth year in a row, the Chicago Housing Authority, with the six-time NBA champion Chicago Bulls hosted its annual Kids Holiday Party on **Sunday, Dec. 14 at the Shedd Aquarium, 1200 S. Lake Shore Drive.**

At the party, clutch player Luol Deng and breakout rookie Derrick Rose handed out gifts and signed autographs for 400 kids living in CHA developments. Deng, who made his fourth appearance at the annual party, purchased the toys for each of the 400 children attending.

Prior to gift distribution, attendees were treated to a private screening of “The Polar Express 4-D” and lunch catered by Vienna Beef, Hinckley Spring Water and Edys Grand Ice Cream. Other Bulls representatives on hand were players Thabo Sefolosha and Michael Ruffin, “goodwill ambassador” Bob Love and team mascot Benny the Bull.

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About the Chicago Housing Authority

The CHA was created by state legislation in 1937 to create and expand affordable housing opportunities for low income families and seniors. Today, through federal and other resources, the CHA assists approximately 35,000 families who participate in the Housing Choice Voucher program in private units owned by private landlords. In addition, the CHA owns 15,500 units for families in scattered site, traditional public housing or mixed income developments and 9,500 units of housing for senior citizens in 56 senior developments across the city.

About the Plan for Transformation

In 1999, the City of Chicago began a multi-billion dollar, 15-year initiative to renovate or replace the CHA’s entire portfolio of 25,000 public housing units throughout the city. Currently, 67percent of the units have been completed, including the comprehensive renovation of the entire senior developments and scattered-site stock. Eighty percent of the portfolio is scheduled to be complete by 2009. The Plan is a collaboration between the CHA, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the City of Chicago and its many agencies, area businesses and non-profit organization.