



Juan Padilla

Juan Padilla was a 24th round draft pick of the Minnesota Twins. He spent six seasons in the Twins' minor league system before breaking into the majors with the New York Yankees and Cincinnati Reds in 2004. In 2005 Juan signed with the New York Mets where he ended his best season in the MLB with a 1.49 ERA. Juan was part of his native Puerto Rican National team in the first World Baseball Classic in 2006. As a child Juan had played Little League in Puerto Rico, but only dreamed of a career in the U.S. until he was recruited by TCC Baseball Coach Mike McLeod. "He taught me a lot," said Juan. "I still have TCC and Coach McLeod in

my heart," he said. Juan now offers baseball lessons to young student athletes. "Making a difference for one person – it means a lot to me."