



Occasionally, on our journey through life, we meet a truly extraordinary person who literally changes the world with seeming ease and grace, who knows no limits, and is content to do nothing less than set new records and inspire the world to heights never before dreamed. Young Bilaal Rajan, of Toronto, Canada, is just such a person.

It's hard to believe that Bilaal has been motivated by a deep desire to help people in need, especially children, since he was four years of age, but he actually sold clementine oranges door to door. The \$350 he raised was to help the 2001 earthquake victims in Gujarat, India.

How a four year-old could possess a comprehension for money, or the impact it can have is incomprehensible, but he must have found it personally rewarding, because from there he targeted global poverty and to date (2007), has raised over \$50,000 for The World Partnership Walk. He found a powerful benefactor in the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) who matched that figure dollar for dollar.

Bilaal then went on to support the ravaged island of Haiti after the hurricane of 2004. He knew his \$10 allowance would not be sufficient to help on the scale he had in mind, and his desire to help in a big way sparked a brilliant solution. Bilaal asked his father's company to donate boxes of cookies to sell at school recess to raise awareness and funds for the starving Haitian children. Bilaal was bright enough to realize he could be more successful if he leveraged the time and energy of others, and formed a team of 12 other children to help.

This inspired young man also set up a dedicated website, to raise awareness for children in need. In October 2004, Bilaal and his teammates presented UNICEF with a cheque for \$6,387 from cookies...

Bilaal Rajan

Speech Topics

- ☐ Youth
- ☐ Teambuilding
- ☐ Personal Growth
- ☐ Peak Performance
- ☐ Motivation
- ☐ Leadership

