

Alley-Oop Kids — Grant Thornton's newest Purple Paladin

Transcript

00:00:16:16 - 00:00:21:06

Rishan Patel

Kids from low income communities are six times more likely to quit sports.

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Rishan Patel

Once you don't play sports, you don't have the equipment and when you don't play sports, you don't learn those, those lessons, the grit, the teamwork, you know, work ethic, whatnot.

00:00:30:00 - 00:00:36:01

Rishan Patel

And when you don't learn those lessons, it's just it's harder to weave through things in life, whether that be sports related or not.

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Rishan Patel

I've always been playing sports. I've always loved it. And it's particular in elementary school, maybe like first second grade, I started noticing I was more confident, you know, going from being just like kind of a more shy kid and then kind of finding my voice through basketball and other sports.

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Rishan Patel

That's kind of how my passion developed. And then I started this project because I noticed that as I was going to these basketball tournaments and like cities like San Francisco, Oakland and East Palo Alto,

00:00:58:20 - 00:01:06:01

Rishan Patel

I started noticing kids not, you know, using the right equipment. seen that over time, really just, you know, I knew something was off and I had to do something about it.

00:01:06:01 - 00:01:09:18

Rishan Patel

Our mission is to bring sports to as many kids across the world, as many as we can.

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Rishan Patel

The Lending Lockers, the main focus is the equipment. But I think it's a broader idea of like sports inequity. And so I think

there's so many things from sports

00:01:19:02 - 00:01:24:18

Rishan Patel

that I've learned that have really helped me be successful and whatever in life more than more than just sports for sure.

00:01:24:18 - 00:01:29:00

Rishan Patel

For kids, not to have that opportunity is just is not fair and it needs to be something that's addressed. We started that first locker in East Palo Alto, I didn't really know what I was getting into.

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Rishan Patel

Our process, we reach out to the school or they reach out to us and then we send them the locker request form.

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Rishan Patel

And so we have all this equipment at our house. Sometimes we need to buy some extra. We have over 130 lending lockers worldwide and we have impacted over 100,000 kids.

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Rishan Patel

This one organization in Africa, Uganda, that reached out to us asking for a locker. So we got it out to them and then we're getting all these videos of like these kids playing with, with equipment, which is just, this is really cool. It, it really shows that this organization is really in this project is just kind of taken to a, to a scale I wouldn't have expected.

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Carlos Villicana

Us at the Boys and Girls Club, we try to make sure that we are using sports as a conduit to be able to better the whole child. And sports really does that really well.

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Carlos Villicana

Having those resources to be able to share, you know, sports equipment, a locker, you know, to organizations like us, is very important. We just you know, we're very thankful for the opportunity

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Rishan Patel

Grant Thornton has been really helpful I felt like I was just joining a family. They're super supportive. And,

00:02:34:23 - 00:02:40:06

Rishan Patel

you know, it seems like the more important part rather than the funds is that the support you get from the people. I think it's just that that my aspirations are just to go as, as big as possible, as fast as possible.



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