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Homeless Man's Honesty Pays Back In Spades

BY MEERA DOLASIA

On February 9th, 2013, Kansas City resident Sarah Darling was walking along the street when she **encountered** a homeless man by the name of Billy Ray Harris. **Instinctively**, she reached into her change purse and emptied out all the coins she had into his collection can. Little did either realize that this small act of **generosity**, would change their lives forever.

It was not until the following morning that Sarah realized that not only had she given Billy all her change, but also, her **platinum** and diamond engagement ring that she had placed in her change purse earlier, because it had been bothering her finger. She and her husband Bill Krejci, rushed to the see if they could locate Billy, hoping against hope, that he would confirm her **suspicion** about where she had misplaced her precious jewelry. Not only was the homeless man in the same spot, he also, immediately returned the ring. The grateful couple paid him back for his honesty by emptying out their pockets of all the cash they had - about \$60USD.

However, Bill Krejci, a web designer felt as though he needed to do something more for this amazingly honest man especially, after the story went **viral** and hundreds of people reached out to see how they could help Billy. So on February 18th, he set up a special page for him on fundraising site **Give Forward** with a goal of raising \$1,000USD in 90 days. In just four days, the donations have ballooned to over \$85,000USD and there seems to be no end in sight yet.

If that is not enough, Billy is off the streets and currently living with an unnamed **samaritan**. And that's not all - Thanks to all the media coverage, he was reunited with his older brother, Edwin Harris who he has been unable to locate for 27 years. Not only did the two talk for 45 minutes on the phone, but Edwin is also planning to come get Billy in mid-March and take him to his home in Lubbock, Texas.

All this good fortune just because Billy did the right thing - Return something that did not rightfully belong to him. Honesty is definitely the best policy! If you want to donate some of your allowance to better the life of Billy Ray Harris or just keep up to date with how this **heartwarming** story ends, check out giveforward.com/billyray.

Resources: newsyahoo.com, nydaily, huffingtonpost.com

Geography

Kansas City, Missouri
Lubbock, Texas