



Dez Clark

Desmond Clark was a tight end for the Chicago Bears for 8 seasons, beginning in the 2003 season. In the Windy City, Dez caught 242 passes for 18 touchdowns. In 2006, he played in the Super Bowl after contributing 626 receiving yards of offense on the season. Clark began his NFL career in 1999 with the Denver Broncos where he played for 3 seasons. He then spent the 2002 season with the Miami Dolphins.

Clark's greatest contributions to the world, however, come off the field. He states, "I have a passion for helping people, especially kids. I play football for a living but I don't define myself by what I do for a living, but by how much good I can do for my fellow man. Sometimes it costs us nothing to help someone, so why not. Things are not for getting, they are for giving."

Dez founded his 88 Wayz Organization to enhance the educational, spiritual, physical, mental, political, social, and community growth of today's youth. He strives to assist the youth in realizing their dreams and reaching their full potential by mentoring, motivating, and developing the confidence needed to achieve and become productive adults.

In 2002, Dez began providing football camps to low income children with hopes of giving back to his community, and to show young people that they can do anything they put their minds to. Dez's collaborative partnerships have lead the City of Lakeland, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Alliance, local businesses and the Polk County School board through many events throughout the year and have supported over one thousand youth. In a three year period, Clark provided football cleats to six hundred youth and he continues to find ways to support the Lakeland community.

Dez has a strong desire to benefit others. He has a passion for speaking on the subject of having a vision; just as one needs vision to catch a football, you also need to have a vision for your life.