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STRONGER FAMILIES, BRIGHTER FUTURES

The gifts that keep on giving

This was a birthday to remember for Eagles Linebacker Haason Reddick!

As a professional athlete, Philadelphia Eagles Linebacker, Haason Reddick could have chosen to do anything for his birthday. What he chose to do on Monday September 18th was to celebrate youth in foster care, inviting over **100** children and their guardians from our foster care and adoption programs to a birthday bash at Lincoln Financial Field, complete with moon-bounces, face-painting, food, cake, and gifts, sponsored by the Acme Foundation.

The families were over-the-moon waiting to meet Haason, all donned in their best Eagles gear. There were also quite a few that came with footballs and jerseys from their own school's football teams saying how ***they wanted to play in the pros just like Haason.*** One eight-year-old kept asking around, "Where is the birthday boy? How tall is he? How fast can he run?"

To our children and families, the chance to personally meet Haason and have a party thrown in honor of them was a truly special moment to be *recognized, loved, and celebrated*.

Haason himself has a personal connection to foster care, having had loved ones go into and age out of the system and aunts who adopted children in care.

For Haason, giving back was not just about the party and the gifts, it was about connecting with children who “need some support and need some love.” Support, love, and hope are gifts that keep on giving.

We are grateful for Haason Reddick and the Acme Foundation for creating this wonderful opportunity for kids in our care to feel appreciated and loved. Getting a chance to meet role models like Haason gives children in care **hope that they can achieve their dreams too**, especially for many of our junior football players who aspire to be Eagles themselves one day.

Thank you to Haason for the special invites to your birthday bash! It was truly a special night for countless of our children and families.

To watch the CBS coverage of the event, click on the link below!



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