

Nick DeStefano Bio

Nick Destefano, or Awesome Nick D, as most call him, is a husband, dad, brother, professional leadership speaker, and the founder of the ChasingtheAwesomeLife Initiative: a program that teaches individuals how to embrace pain and fears so they can live life as resilient, confident, and awesome leaders.

He serves as the Service Excellence Process Manager for McLeod Health. He has over 12 years of experience in providing service excellence and leadership training to thousands of individuals across the nation. Improving the human experience for all is his true passion. Nick knows that you have the ability to positively impact the world if you start with self-awareness and confidence. For this reason, Nick studied to become Gallup-Certified Strengths Coach, and coaches students and professionals on their unique talents and ways to maximize their potential.

Lastly, Nick has the pleasure of serving as a national autism awareness trainer for Champion Autism Network (CAN). This is a passion project and volunteer endeavor that means the world to him, as his oldest son, Calvin, was diagnosed with Autism at the age of two and a half. Calvin has completely changed his idea of resilience and leadership for the better!

In his free time, you can find Nick drinking ALL the coffee, carrying a ruck, sandbag, or log on the beach, training for a marathon, or just loving life with his college sweetheart Megan, and two young sons, Cal and Coop!

Nick DeStefano “Embrace the Suck” Intro

Welcome to <<conference name>>! I’m excited to introduce you to our keynote speaker for tonight, Nick DeStefano.

In your typical boring speaker intro, you listen to me tell you all of the speaker's accomplishments and background.

While this keynote is called “Embracing the Suck”, let’s not start with a bad intro.

So if you want to learn more about Nick’s background, you can read his bio in the program.

For now, Nick wants you know he wants you to know he’s here because he’s human like you are, and he is *here* for you:

He is here to challenge you

He is here because he believes in you.

He is here because, *whether you believe it or not, you are a leader.*

He knows that we all have fears and weaknesses and make mistakes, himself included.

In fact, here’s a little more about Nick his faults and failures:

Nick struggles with anger and impatience.

He once split his pants in front of 10,000 fans at a minor league baseball game where he worked.

Nick DeStefano “Embrace the Suck” Intro (Cont’d)

He tends to take on more than he can actually do.

He procrastinates.....a lot. His favorite mantra is, “if you wait until the last minute it only takes a minute”.

He was fired from the first speaking agency that he was part of.

His biggest fear is letting his family down.

He’s an awful typer, typist, person who types... whatever it is you call that, he types like a T-rex.

So now you know he’s human, and he too needs help to be his best self... just like you and your students do. And that’s why Nick is here, to help you:

Help you learn how to accept adversity

Help you get vulnerable and honest about your fears

Help you learn how to overcome fear and most importantly help you learn how to be awesome.

So go ahead and take a seat, get your pen out to take some notes, and most importantly, get ready to take action!

Give it up for Nick the procrastinator!

Nick DeStefano Logo



Nick DeStefano Photos



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