I wish to go to Walt Disney World® Resort

Miranda, 5
acute lymphoblastic leukemia
EVERY
34 MINUTES

TOGETHER,

THAT'S HOW OFTEN WE TRANSFORM A CHILD'S LIFE.

THAT'S HOW OFTEN WE MAKE FAMILIES FEEL ‘NORMAL’ AGAIN.

THAT'S HOW OFTEN WE BRING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER.
Dear Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to report that Fiscal Year 2017 was another successful year for Make-A-Wish® Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana! Thanks to the support of thousands of donors and volunteers, our chapter granted wishes for 748 children throughout our three-state region who are battling critical illnesses. While these wishes ranged from I wish to have a black-tie party for my family and friends to I wish to go to tech camp, they all had one thing in common – each wish played a significant role in improving a deserving child’s quality of life.

Wishes have proven physical and emotional benefits that can give children with critical illnesses a higher chance of survival. And wishes not only help these children – they also have far-reaching, positive impacts on their families and communities. When a wish is granted, a child replaces fear with confidence, and anxiety with hope. The experience is special, and its impact is lasting. As someone who routinely speaks with wish kids and their families during difficult times, I can truthfully say that a wish gives these children renewed energy and strength, while bringing families closer together.

But, we still have work to do. Our vision is to grant the wish of every eligible child. Right now, due to funding, we are only able to grant one out of every two eligible wishes. As a Make-A-Wish supporter, you know how important the wish experience is to a child dealing with a critical illness.

Our chapter relies on generous donors, volunteers and board members to make every wish come true, and we are deeply grateful for this support. It is only with the help of our friends in the community that we are able to provide such life-changing experiences to the children and families we serve. Make-A-Wish Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana would like to extend our sincerest thanks to all of our supporters, and we hope that we may continue working together to share the power of a wish® in the coming year!

Best Wishes,

Doug Kelly
President and Chief Executive Officer
Make-A-Wish Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana
“He was terrified of (Expedition) Everest and wouldn’t ride it at first, but then he overcame his fear, and it ended up being one of his favorite rides. The power of a wish—helping my son become even braver!”

The promise of a wish gives our wish kids a booster shot of courage – to fight on, to see the next day, the next week, and in Andrew’s case, to go on a ride during his wish experience that was ‘scary’ to him, at first. His wish gave him something to look forward to and focus on during an uncertain time in his life. He filled his head with ideas of what he would do at Walt Disney World Resort, rather than focusing on the next needle prick or treatment routine.

Kids with critical illnesses, like Andrew, need a wish to help improve their quality of life and build the physical and emotional strength they need to fight a critical illness. Research shows that a wish can help produce better health outcomes, and doctors have begun to include the wish referral as a part of their treatment routines. We need your help to make sure every child, like Andrew, can experience a wish.
ANOTHER CHILD IS DIAGNOSED WITH A CRITICAL ILLNESS.

EVERY 34 MINUTES*
WE MAKE A WISH COME TRUE!

but...

EVERY 20 MINUTES
ANOTHER CHILD IS DIAGNOSED WITH A CRITICAL ILLNESS.

*WORLD-WIDE WISHES GRANTED
Cade was able to forget about having cancer for a little while. It gave Cade time to get away and experience fun that he has missed out on for so long.

Kids like Cade often live in a climate of “no”—no friends, no sleepovers, no playdates, and no school. But, with the support of the community, Make-A-Wish says ‘yes’ to something they deeply want and that ‘yes’ is very powerful. A wish recharges a kid’s fighting spirit and becomes a rallying point for themselves, their families, and friends. It gives children and families a healing and much needed opportunity to spend time together away from hospitals, treatment schedules and procedures. In short, the wish experience delivers hope right now, when it is most needed.

While experiencing his wish to go on Disney Cruise Line®, Cade was able to ‘just be a kid again’ and enjoy fun cruise ship adventures with his family. When Cade was referred for his wish, he was in and out of the hospital, dealing with treatments and in constant worry about his cancer. His wish gave him something that traditional medicine could not—happiness, hope, and memories to hold onto for the future.

A wish gives kids like Cade renewed energy and strength, brings families closer together, and unites communities.
A wish engages entire communities in life-changing moments, and the process brings healing to those who receive wishes, as well as joy to those who help grant them. And together, we do this every 34 minutes. Transformative experiences, like a wish, touch hearts and inspire action, meaning it’s incredibly important that every child dealing with a critical illness have the opportunity to experience a wish. The wish process below outlines who is involved from the initial referral to wish granted.
Nine-year-old Adrian knows how important wishes are. After months of isolation following a bone marrow transplant, he was finally able to receive his wish—a trip to Hawaii. It was a dream come true for his family.

So when Adrian had the opportunity to be CEO for a day, his first order of business was to make wishes come true for other kids.

“There are very few CEOs who’ve come in and in their first 15 minutes raise nearly $15,000,” said Doug Kelly, CEO for Make-A-Wish Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana for the other 364 days a year.

“Well I’m just really good at talking and doing stuff,” responded Adrian. “I am so grateful for my wish and I want other kids to have wishes like mine.”

The wish experience has been inspiring for Adrian’s entire family, as their focus is now on helping others. “I hope this sparks a love of people, a love of generosity and a love of giving back,” said Adrian’s mom.
"You have cancer." Words no one, let alone a 16-year-old, wants to hear. I was a perfectly healthy teenager, and in an instant, everything changed. I was a pediatric cancer patient fighting for my life.

In the midst of so many painful treatments and hospital visits, finding out that I was eligible for a wish energized me like nothing else could. I felt like it became part of my treatment to think about the possibilities. At the very least, it distracted me from the pain.

When I ran through the "pie in the sky" wish list with my Wish Granting Volunteers, I started to think of what was really important to me. I wanted to choose a wish that would be special, and I wanted it to last forever, so I wished for a camera. Having a camera couldn’t cure my cancer, but it could heal my spirit and help me feel more like a normal kid. This would be a way to explore my passion, and finding the perfect one became my new focus.

I had never even owned my own camera before, and now I had one that helped me envision my future as a photographer. I didn’t realize it then, but it would help me capture some of the most important memories of my life. It helped me beat my cancer.

The impact of a wish lasts a lifetime

Having my wish granted—to have a camera—allowed me to capture the most important moments in my life.

Growing up, my parents always had a camera around and they were constantly snapping photos of all of us on vacation, at the park, or at sporting events.

I wish to have a camera

Lauren, 16
Hodgkins lymphoma
As if it weren't enough, it happened again during my sophomore year of college. My family heard the words, "she has cancer." But this time, it was my mom, and it was a cancer far more aggressive than mine.

For four years, my mom did every treatment and every clinical trial she could and I was right there by her side capturing every moment. I took thousands of pictures and captured thousands of memories. I remember lying in bed with my mom and telling her, "I don't want to live without you."

My mom and I did everything we could to cram 100 years of memories into the 24 years I had with her. I can’t thank my volunteers, that camera store, and Make-A-Wish enough for giving me the ability to capture her journey. Those pictures are everything to me.

We crammed 100 years of memories into the 24 years I had with my mom, and I am so grateful to Make-A-Wish that I have these photos.
I have a different camera now, but I am reminded of my first camera every time I take photos because if not for Make-A-Wish, I might not have believed in my abilities enough to explore my love of photography.

Over the years, I had the opportunity to photograph local Make-A-Wish events and be part of granting a child’s wish to be a model for the day. These experiences were not only valuable for the wish kids and their families, they were helping me work through losing my mom, and they brought me so much joy.

I realized I wanted to be more involved in giving these kids and their families something that would change their lives forever, despite the serious challenges in front of them. They needed hope. They needed my help.

Make-A-Wish believed in me when I didn’t believe in myself, so what was I going to do?

Although there are many ways I could have been an advocate for Make-A-Wish, like donating frequent flier miles, speaking, volunteering, making a gift, or donating in-kind goods or services; I became a staff member. I live the mission of Make-A-Wish every day as I share my story with donors and ask them to make wishes like mine come true. And I’ll be honest with you, Make-A-Wish desperately needs your help. Right now, there is only enough funding to grant 50% of the wishes waiting. And every hour of every day, more and more kids are diagnosed with a critical illness.

Think about a child battling cancer, or a heart condition, or a kidney disorder laying in a hospital bed. YOU have the power to create moments that could impact the rest of these kids’ lives.

Donors like you changed my life.

Thank you.
I knew a wish could change a life. I just didn’t know how much it would change mine.

*John Heil knows wish kids are better equipped to get through the tough times with hope, strength, and joy. And by making those wishes possible, now John is, too.*

I’ve consistently given to 10 charities. Make-A-Wish was one of them; but my contribution to Make-A-Wish was always near the bottom of the 10.

Then I went on a wish.

Jacob wished to go fly-fishing, so I helped plan his wish and got to tag along to teach him about the craft. For the first time, I was witness to an amazing transformation.

The experience empowered him in more ways than you can imagine. Make-A-Wish changed Jacob’s life.

What you wouldn’t expect to hear is that his wish changed my life, too.

10 years later and 10 wishes granted, Make-A-Wish is the top organization I contribute to by far. Why? Because I trust them, and together we have a huge impact. They do what they say they are going to do and they change lives.
A WISH IS ABOUT HOPE AND THE FUTURE. IT FOCUSES A CHILD ON WHAT LIFE CAN BE, RECHARGES THE CHILD AND STRENGTHENS THEIR SPIRIT.

— Dr. Anup Patel

A wish...it’s not just nice, it’s necessary.

Dr. Anup Patel, from Nationwide Children’s Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, wanted to take the power of a wish one step further and prove, though research, the impact of a wish. He conducted a study that compared children dealing with critical illnesses at the hospital who received a wish in the last five years to a control group of children with similar diagnoses who did not receive a wish.

Some of the key findings included:
1. The children who did not get wishes had no measurable difference in the number of hospital visits or treatment.
2. Kids who received a wish had fewer unplanned and planned hospitalizations, charges, and shorter lengths of stay in the year after their wish.
3. One granted wish cuts healthcare costs by 50%, savings equating to $126,000 per wish kid.

In short, what Dr. Patel found is reportable data to support the positive medical and financial return of a wish. The research helps position Make-A-Wish within our communities as a “need to have” organization and part of our wish kids’ overall treatment. A wish can help kids with critical illnesses heal and better equip them to fight their illnesses. The topline findings are being shared and the study is being readied for publication.

I wish to go to Italy to learn about Italian cooking

Austin, 17
seizure disorder
Together, last year, we sparked imagination and delivered strength to 748 Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana children dealing with critical illnesses.

**WISHES GRANTED BY REGION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Wishes Granted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northeast Ohio</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest Ohio</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Ohio</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Ohio</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TYPES OF WISHES**

- I wish to go... 66%
- I wish to have... 22%
- I wish to give... 1%
- I wish to be... 1%
- I wish to meet... 10%

Right now, we could double the number of wishes we grant and still not meet the need. Community support is needed to make every wish come true.

Will you help us make sure every child dealing with a critical illness has the opportunity to experience the power of a wish?

1400+ kids in the pipeline...waiting for their wish!
Right now, we only have funding to grant 50% of the wishes in our pipeline.

A wish is granted somewhere in the world every 34 minutes, but a new child is diagnosed with a critical illness every 20 minutes.

Wishes can’t wait because we are always in a race against time.

Kids with critical illnesses need a wish experience to give them hope and help them heal. Our kids are critically ill and while most do survive and thrive, we never know when or which child may lose their battle. That uncertainty adds a fierce urgency to our work.

Support from donors like you is critical to achieving our vision of granting the wish of every eligible child and providing life-changing experiences for wish kids and families at a time when it is truly needed.

You have the power to give a child something that will impact them for the rest of their lives.

"When you grant a wish, you encourage a child to fight harder, to dream big, and to look past their illness for the future. You recognize what has been taken away from them - their hair, their stamina, their ability to go to school, their health, and the opportunity to just 'live their life.' You are not just giving them a trip, a playhouse, a shopping spree, you are giving them hope."

- wish mom, Erin Butler
## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES*

For the year ended August 31, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenues and Other Support</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individuals</td>
<td>$3,586,662</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate gifts</td>
<td>4,538,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-kind donations</td>
<td>3,582,545</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special events</td>
<td>3,154,741</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net investment gain</td>
<td>487,391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>146,013</td>
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</table>

**Total Revenues and Other Support**  
$15,502,567

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program services—wish granting</td>
<td>$8,616,202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>1,984,899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
<td>2,249,466</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Expenses**  
$12,850,567

| Change in net assets                            | $2,652,000  |
| Net assets at beginning of year                 | (1,193,527) |

**Total Net Assets at End of Year**  
$1,458,473

*Unaudited presentation. Audited financial statements can be found on our chapter website—oki.wish.org
# Statement of Financial Position

For the year ended August 31, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$2,431,175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>13,713</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions receivable, net</td>
<td>1,723,151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due from related entities</td>
<td>543,410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid and other assets</td>
<td>609,688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and equipment, net</td>
<td>135,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments held for long-term purposes</td>
<td>4,444,383</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Assets** $9,900,980

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued expenses</td>
<td>$585,060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued pending wish costs (cash)</td>
<td>4,057,135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued pending wish costs (in-kind)</td>
<td>3,737,577</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due to related entities</td>
<td>6,379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other liabilities</td>
<td>56,356</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Liabilities** $8,442,507

*Unaudited presentation. Audited financial statements can be found on our chapter website—oki.wish.org*
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION* cont.
For the year ended August 31, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net Assets</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>$ (1,240,652)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>2,206,661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently restricted</td>
<td>492,464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 1,458,473</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 9,900,980</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES*
For the year ended August 31, 2017

Wish Granting: 67%
Management and General: 18%
Fundraising: 15%

748 WISHES GRANTED

*Unaudited presentation. Audited financial statements can be found on our chapter website—oki.wish.org
He has taught me to really be full of joy no matter what comes your way in life.

–Ken Nelson, filmmaker

I wish to have a documentary made about my life

Hendrix, 8 respiratory condition

“He has taught me to really be full of joy no matter what comes your way in life.”

–Ken Nelson, filmmaker
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2545 Farmers Drive, Suite 300
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614-923-0555
Toll Free 1-877-206-9474

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6060 Rockside Woods Blvd., Suite 315
Independence, OH 44131
216-241-3670
Toll Free 1-888-272-9474

Central Ohio Region
2545 Farmers Drive, Suite 300
Columbus, OH 43235
614-923-0555
Toll Free 1-877-206-9474

Northwest Ohio Region
1745 Indian Wood Circle, Suite 130
Maumee, OH 43537
419-244-9474
Toll Free 1-877-206-9474

Southern Ohio Region
4500 Cooper Road, Suite 304
Cincinnati, OH 45242-5600
513-745-9474
Toll Free 1-877-206-9474

Kentucky Region
1230 Liberty Bank Lane, Suite 300
Louisville, KY 40222
502-327-0705
Toll Free 1-866-487-9474

Indiana Region
6201 Corporate Drive Suite 100
Indianapolis, IN 46278
317-636-6060
Toll Free 1-877-872-2756