

WISHES MATTER

While wishes are unique expressions of each child's imagination, they typically fall into one of four categories:



77%

I wish to go ...

Wish kids imagine visiting locations as exotic as Hawaii or meeting their favorite character at the *Walt Disney World*® Resort.



6%

I wish to meet ...

Wish kids envision meeting a musical artist, their favorite athlete, or a movie star.



16%

I wish to have ...

Wish kids dream of a furry friend, a home theater to enjoy movies, or a shopping spree for the latest electronics.



1%

I wish to be ...

Wish kids use their imaginations and wish to become a firefighter, chef or superhero.

MAKE-A-WISH®

Wish Impact

A wish come true helps children feel stronger, more energetic, more willing and able to battle their life-threatening medical conditions. For many of them, it marks a turning point in their fight against their illnesses. For their doctors, nurses and other health professionals, the wish experience works in concert with medicine to make their patients feel better, emotionally and even physically.

Impact by the Numbers

89%

of medical professionals surveyed believe a wish experience can positively influence a child's health.

92%

of volunteers surveyed felt a deeper commitment to philanthropy and volunteer work.

98%

of parents surveyed said the wish made them feel like a normal family.

Make-A-Wish Colorado grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy.

Make-A-Wish® Colorado

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MAKE-A-WISH®

Photo by Karen
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Michaela, 7

disease of circulatory system

I wish to go to the *Walt Disney World*® Resort

Make-A-Wish® Colorado

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Faith, 11

kidney transplant

I wish to go to Discovery Cove®
and swim with dolphins



“I gave the dolphin a kiss...I couldn't stop smiling.” – wish kid Faith

It All Started With a Wish...

Make-A-Wish® Colorado began in 1983 after liver disease took the life of 7-year-old Jennifer Mazak. Although Jennifer did not receive a formal wish, she wanted to meet the KIMN Chicken, a popular radio mascot. When the KIMN Chicken was told of Jennifer's wish, he came to visit her. The KIMN Chicken spent the whole afternoon with Jennifer, helping her forget that she was the sick kid for once.

Jennifer passed away just two weeks after her visit from the KIMN Chicken. Remembering how much the visit had lifted Jennifer's spirits, Joan decided that the funds she and many others had raised for the liver transplant Jennifer needed could still help the community. When Joan heard of Make-A-Wish, she knew it was the perfect way to honor Jennifer's memory. We are reminded of Jennifer's smile each time we fulfill a wish.

Our Purpose

Make-A-Wish Colorado is dedicated to granting the unique wishes of children who have reached the age of 2½ and are younger than 18 at the time of referral, who have life-threatening medical conditions.

In doing so, it strives to provide the child and family with special memories of care-free happiness and laughter which are dramatically different from hospitals, doctors and treatment programs. A wish offers a welcome respite – a time of just plain fun and escape!

Our Goal

Our goal, simply stated, is to be the best wish granting non-profit organization in the world. Locally, we strive to grant the wish of every eligible Colorado child. We will continue to grow guided by our organization's commitment to quality and excellence.

**Jackson, 6**

congenital heart disease

I wish to meet Shaun White