OUR MISSION
We grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy.

OUR VISION
We are dedicated to making every eligible child’s wish come true.

ABOUT US
• Since its inception in 1980, Make-A-Wish has collectively granted the wishes of more than 334,000 children with life-threatening medical conditions around the world.
• For the tenth consecutive year, we have received the highest 4-star rating by America’s largest independent evaluator of charities, Charity Navigator, for our ability to efficiently grow and manage our finances in the most fiscally responsible way. Only 1% of charities rated by Charity Navigator have received this “exceptional” status of receiving at least 10 consecutive 4-star ratings.

OUR AFFILATES
There are 38 affiliates of Make-A-Wish International serving children in nearly 50 countries around the globe.

VOLUNTEERS
Each year, over 32,000 volunteers generously give their time, talents and energy to fulfill the Make-A-Wish mission around the globe.

WISHES
Typically children’s wishes fall into five categories: To Be (e.g., a zookeeper, a firefighter, a baker), To Meet (e.g., a favorite celebrity or athlete), To Have (e.g., a computer, a playhouse, a puppy), To Go (e.g., to a theme park, the beach, a major sporting event), or To Give (e.g., raising funds, helping improve their school or celebrating a holiday with family).

POWER OF A WISH
Families, friends, medical professionals, and communities can be touched by the simple, innocent wish of a child. A wish sends a positive message of hope, strength, and joy to a child when they need it most. The wish experience has the power to re-ignite the flames of life, creating a journey of optimism for a child and their family.

“Everyone has the opportunity to Join the World℠ in celebrating wishes around the globe. A wish improves the life of the wish child and everyone touched by that wish. People from all over the world can come together to help make more wishes come true.”

- Amy Nauiokas, chair, Make-A-Wish International
**About Make-A-Wish International**

**MISSION STATEMENT**
We grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy.

**BEGINNINGS OF MAKE-A-WISH**
In 1980, Chris Greicius was a seven-year-old boy being treated for leukemia. Whenever he saw a police officer, he saw everything he wanted to be. Law enforcement officers heard about Chris’ wish to be a police officer and responded to the call. A police helicopter flew him to headquarters for a tour, a ride in a patrol car and a ceremony making him the first-ever honorary state patrolman in Arizona history. They also presented him a custom-tailored uniform, motorcycle helmet, campaign hat and the motorcycle wings he earned on his own battery-powered bike. Many of those responsible for fulfilling Chris’ wish wanted to do the same for other children with life-threatening medical conditions and founded Make-A-Wish in November 1980.

**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, the wish marks a turning point in the fight against their illnesses.

When wish kids are granted a wish, they get more than just a great experience for a day, two days, or a week. That experience improves the quality of life for them and their entire family.

Health professionals treating them say the wish experience is an important adjunct to medical treatment, and they observe their patients feel better and comply more readily with treatment protocols when they experience their wish come true. And the community volunteers who grant wishes say the wish granting process heightens both their ability to see the best in others, and their commitment to actively help more people in need.

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> – Amy Nauiokas, chair, Make-A-Wish International

**GLOBAL REACH**
Interest in granting the wishes of special children like Chris quickly spread to other countries. In 1993, Make-A-Wish International was officially formed to serve five countries outside the U.S. that were already granting wishes. Make-A-Wish International serves children outside the United States while Make-A-Wish America serves children within the United States.
Today, Make-A-Wish is the largest wish-granting organization in the world, serving children in nearly 50 countries. More than 334,000 wishes have been granted worldwide since its inception in 1980.

**AFFILIATES**
The 38 affiliates of Make-A-Wish International are:

- Argentina
- Australia
- Austria
- Belgium South
- Belgium-Vlaanderen
- Brazil
- Canada
- Chile
- China*
- Denmark
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hong Kong
- India
- Ireland
- Israel
- Italy
- Japan
- Korea
- Luxembourg
- Malaysia
- Mexico
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Pakistan
- Panama
- Peru
- Philippines
- Portugal
- Romania
- Singapore
- Spain
- Switzerland
- Taiwan
- Thailand
- Turkey
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom

* future office

**ELIGIBILITY**
We grant the wishes of medically eligible children who:

- have been diagnosed with a life-threatening medical condition
- are at least 3 years of age, but have not yet reached their 18th birthday
- have not received a wish from another wish-granting organization.

The child's physician determines whether a child is medically eligible to receive a wish.

**THE WISH PROCESS**
Every wish is a memorable experience for the wish child, the family and those who participate in the wish. Make-A-Wish follows a process to create memorable wish experiences for each wish child:

**STEP ONE: The Wish Referral**
Out of respect for the privacy of the children and families Make-A-Wish International serves, only these sources may refer a child:

- a medical professional treating the child (doctor, nurse, social worker or child-life specialist);
- the child’s parents or legal guardians;
- the potential wish child.
STEP TWO: Determining the Child's Eligibility
Children who have been diagnosed with a life-threatening medical condition and are at least 3 years of age but have not yet reached their 18th birthday may be eligible for a wish. The treating physician determines whether a child is medically eligible to receive a wish. A child also must not have received a wish from another wish-granting organization to qualify.

Make-A-Wish International grants wishes to children who qualify for our services without regard to race, creed, religion, sex, economic status, or national origin.

Make-A-Wish International respects the privacy of the children and families we serve. We consider all wish child information confidential and will not discuss the information with outside parties unless it is needed for the wish, and the parents or guardians have consented.

STEP THREE: Choosing a Wish
Once the child is deemed medically eligible, we send one of our enthusiastic wish teams to learn the child's one true wish. These passionate individuals help children explore their imaginations for the experience that will thrill and inspire them.

Wishes generally fall into one of these categories:
- I wish to have...
- I wish to be...
- I wish to go...
- I wish to meet...

STEP FOUR: Making a Wish Come True
Finally, our wish granter creates an unforgettable experience driven by the wish child’s creativity. The experience enriches the lives of the children, their families and sometimes their entire community. All members of the wish child's immediate family take part in the wish whenever possible, and all wish expenses are fully covered by the organization – giving the wish child and family a respite from the stress of dealing with a life-threatening medical condition. In many cases, a wish experience is a source of inspiration for children undergoing difficult medical treatments and a positive force that helps them overcome their obstacles.

FUNDING SOURCES
Make-A-Wish International finances its endeavors through individual contributions, corporate donations, grants, and other assessments. The organization also relies on in-kind contributions to lessen the cost of goods and services. For the tenth straight year, Make-A-Wish International received the highest four-star rating from the United States' largest independent evaluator of charities, Charity Navigator, for outstanding performance and commitment to fiscal responsibility.

VOLUNTEERING
Thousands of volunteers around the world generously give their time, talents, and energy to fulfill the Make-A-Wish mission. In 2013 alone, over 32,000 volunteers served Make-A-Wish offices around the world in a variety of capacities including wish granting, office administrative support, special event planning and coordinating, Website design, fundraising and much more. Individuals can offer to volunteer by visiting worldwish.org or by contacting their local Make-A-Wish office.

WISHES BY THE NUMBERS
Since its founding in 1980, Make-A-Wish has collectively granted more than 334,000 wishes around the world. In 2013 alone, over 24,000 wishes were granted. The chapters of Make-A-Wish America
granted 14,003, and 10,470 were granted outside of the United States, led by affiliates of Make-A-Wish International.

Much like their imaginations, children’s wishes cover an almost limitless spectrum. From wishing to be a ballerina to meeting a favorite celebrity, from receiving a new laptop computer to visiting a glamorous destination, wish children have enjoyed unforgettable, inspirational wish experiences around the world.

ABOUT MAKE-A-WISH
Make-A-Wish grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. The impact of a wish experience spans a lifetime; strengthening children as they fight their illness, encouraging their families and inspiring their communities. Based in Phoenix, Make-A-Wish is one of the world's leading children's charities, serving children in nearly 50 countries on five continents. With the help of generous donors and more than 32,000 volunteers worldwide, Make-A-Wish has granted more than 334,000 wishes since its inception in 1980. Visit Make-A-Wish International at worldwish.org or Make-A-Wish America at wish.org and discover how you can share the power of a wish®.