

Make-A-Wish®  
NEBRASKA

# Year-in-Review

A LOOK BACK AT THE WISHES  
FROM OUR LAST FISCAL YEAR,  
SEPT. 1, 2018 TO AUG. 31, 2019



*I wish to go to  
Walt Disney World®*  
Elliott, 4 | Waterloo  
neurological disorder

[nebraska.wish.org](http://nebraska.wish.org)

Together, we create life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses.



Brigette Young, President and CEO of Make-A-Wish Nebraska, with Wish Kid Sam, at the 2019 Blue Jean Ball

Dear Friends -

Since our inception in 1983, Make-A-Wish Nebraska has granted over 2,700 life-changing wishes to children right here in Nebraska.

As you look back on the highlights of our last fiscal year that ended Aug. 31, 2019, we hope you see in these wishes the impact your support has had on Nebraska children battling a critical illness. For these kids, a wish can help them feel better and give them the hope and strength they need to fight harder against - and often overcome - an illness. It's why health professionals use a wish as part of their treatment plan. Your support of Make-A-Wish Nebraska is opening the door to endless possibilities for kids and their families when they need it most.

Currently, we have our highest number of children in Nebraska waiting for wishes - over 150 children! Every day, we continue to work tirelessly to reach our goal of granting the wish of every eligible child.

As long as there is a need for wishes, we are committed to granting those wishes with hope, strength, and joy for years to come.

Thank you for making wishes come true!

Brigette Young  
President/CEO

## Twenty-Five Years of Granting Wishes!

In 2019, Truck Center Companies celebrated the 25th anniversary of their annual golf tournament for Make-A-Wish Nebraska. They set a lofty goal of raising \$400,000 to bring their life-time giving to \$3 million.

This year's festivities included a concert the night before the golf tournament. The night kicked off with a special visit from Governor Ricketts and a wonderful performance by the Dylan Bloom Band. The 412 concert attendees were treated to a special presentation by wish kid Hope and her family before Craig Morgan took the stage for an amazing concert!

The next day, Truck Center Companies hosted its annual golf tournament at Tiburon Golf Club with over 260 golfers hitting the links. At the tournament dinner, golfers heard from wish kid Mary Kate and her parents, who shared her wish story about dancing with Cinderella's Prince Charming.

Truck Center Companies and their many supporters not only hit the goal, they surpassed it, raising over \$432,000 during the 25th anniversary celebration. This brought their total amount raised well over the \$3 million mark. With the 25th anniversary, Truck Center Companies has now granted over 440 wishes to children in Nebraska, making them the single largest corporate donor for Make-A-Wish Nebraska.

Thank you to Truck Center Companies for helping make wishes come true for 25 years!

(ABOVE RIGHT) Truck Center Companies presents Make-A-Wish Nebraska with a record-breaking donation! Pictured left to right: Brigette Young, President and CEO of Make-A-Wish Nebraska, Trey Mytty, CEO of Truck Center Companies, Jennifer Mytty, Matt Hoskinson, Executive Vice President of Truck Center Companies, and Wish Kid Nolan

(RIGHT) Wish Kid Hope shares her wish story with attendees at the Craig Morgan Concert on June 6.



## Local Reach

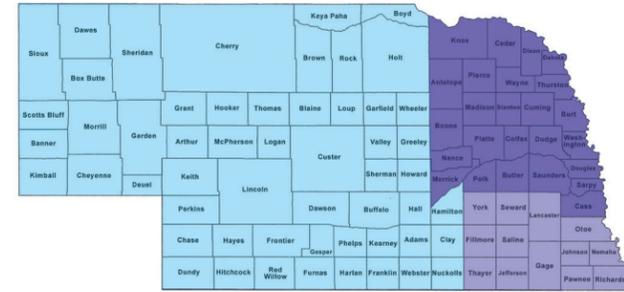
Our local chapter grants more than **110 wishes** each year.

Since 1983, more than **2,700 wishes** have been granted.

**100% Local** - Our mission is delivered across the entire state of Nebraska.

The average cost of a wish is **\$7,500**.

Every August 31st we reflect back on another incredible year of granting wishes. With the help and generosity of individuals and companies from across the state, this fiscal year we were able to grant **115 unforgettable wishes** to children in Nebraska with critical illnesses.



Omaha Region Wish Area  
Lincoln Region Wish Area  
Greater Nebraska Region Wish Area

## Make an Impact

### DONATION

You can give online, by mail, or by phone. Leave a legacy and impact future generations through planned giving.

### IN-KIND

You can create life-changing experiences by donating goods

### DONATE AIRLINE MILES

Make-A-Wish needs more than 2.5 billion miles, or 50,000 round-trip tickets, to grant wishes each year. Donate your miles and help make wishes come true!

### VOLUNTEERING

You can help make the wishes of children in our community come true when you become a Make-A-Wish volunteer. Our mission is possible only with the dedication of our volunteers.

### KIDS FOR WISH KIDS®

Kids For Wish Kids is a Make-A-Wish program that enables students to discover philanthropy by selecting their own fundraising project and managing it from start to finish, with little or no help from their teachers.

### REFER A CHILD

We rely on wish referrals from caring individuals to help us reach more kids with critical illnesses every year and grant them a wish that changes lives, forever. The eligibility consideration process is initiated when a wish referral inquiry is submitted to the local chapter. Learn more about who is eligible for a wish, who can refer a child and how the referral process works. [nebraska.wish.org/refer-a-child](http://nebraska.wish.org/refer-a-child)

## Board of Directors

CHAIRMAN David Kirkwood, Tenaska  
VICE-CHAIR Tim McGill, McGill Restoration  
TREASURER Scott Jamieson, Great Western Bank  
SECRETARY Carrie Weber, Ameritas, Lincoln, NE  
IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR Wendy Hind, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln, NE

DIRECTORS  
Mike Abramson, Frankel Zacharia  
Michael Ash, MD, UNMC  
Bill Calhoun, Kearney Regional Medical Center, Kearney, NE  
Jim Eggleston, Cole Information Services  
Stacy Feit, Leo A Daly Liaison/Omaha Friends Council  
Deb Fenton, FBI - Retired  
Kelly Hillman, Union Bank & Trust, Lincoln, NE  
Matt Hoskinson, Truck Center Companies  
Brian Ketcham, Lindsay Corp.  
Mark McQueen, Baird Holm  
Renee Miller, CHI - Saint Francis, Grand Island, NE  
Pat Moore, Premier Senior Marketing-Retired, Norfolk, NE  
Brian Pierce, Great Western Bank  
Clashaud Robbins, Nebraska Air National Guard  
Pat Verkamp, Wells Fargo  
Jolene Wojcik, Grand Island Central Catholic Development Foundation, Grand Island, NE  
Brigette Young, Make-A-Wish Nebraska  
MEDICAL ADVISOR  
Dr. Mark Puccioni, Midwest Neurosurgery & Spine Specialists

## Staff

HEADQUARTERS  
11836 Arbor Street  
Omaha, NE 68144  
Phone (800) 760 9474

Brigette Young  
President/CEO  
Linda Hogrefe  
Vice President of Development

Jennifer Shuman  
Program Services Director

Emily Marston  
Marketing & Events Manager

Courtney Cleveringa  
Community & Medical Outreach Manager

Laura Jones  
Office & Database Manager

Alisa James  
Office Assistant

Romy Reicks  
Bookkeeper

LINCOLN OFFICE  
8033 South 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite B  
Lincoln, NE 68512  
Phone (402) 475 9474

Melissa Davis-Schmit  
Regional Director - Lincoln

Carrie Fitzke  
Wish & Development Coordinator

KEARNEY OFFICE  
412 East 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite D  
Kearney, NE 68847  
Phone (308) 234 6612

Marion McDermott  
Director of Development  
- Greater Nebraska

Katie Rickard  
Program Coordinator  
- Greater Nebraska

## September 2018



**I wish to go to Clearwater, FL to see the beach**  
Hayes, 4 | Gretna genetic disorder

When Hayes thought about a special wish, he came up with three things: 1. He wanted to spend time with his entire family – his Mom, Dad, sister and brother 2. He wanted to do things outside and 3. he wanted to visit a beach.

His wish was to visit Clearwater, Florida, however, a few days before the trip, Hayes and his family had to be redirected to Sanibel Island due to the Red Tide that was present in Clearwater. That didn't stop Hayes from doing all the things he wanted to do though. He played on a beach, sat in the sand and simply let the waves wash over him. It felt perfect. He saw

his first ocean, enjoyed mini-golf, and even spent a day at Walt Disney World®!

Perhaps even more important, when his family talked about the trip, they said for the entire six days they were gone, there was no stress about Hayes' health or other burdens that they worried about at home. Instead, Hayes got to do "normal kid" things. That is exactly the wish experience every wish kid needs.

"The time we were all able to spend together as a family without doctors appointments or outside distractions will forever be something we cherish!" Said Hayes' mom, Kelly.



**I wish to go to Walt Disney World®**  
Hunter, 15 | Bellevue nervous system disorder

Star Wars® is, without a doubt, one of the biggest franchises in the world. For many people, Star Wars has a strong appeal due to its unique story telling and its ability to transcend into different mediums such as books, video games, and animated shows. For others, it's the complexity of the characters and the level of imagination it took to dream up a world filled with droids, Yoda, Chewbacca, and Jedis.

For 15-year-old Hunter, Star Wars has become a passion. When he's not playing Star Wars: Heroes, Hunter can be found outside having lightsaber fights. Hunter loves watching the Star

## November 2018

Wars movies and watches the Star Wars animated series on TV.

When Hunter found out he was receiving a wish, it wasn't hard for him to decide what he wanted to do – Hunter wanted to go to Disney World® so he could meet some of the Star Wars' characters in person.

Hunter and his family traveled down to Florida in November where they had the chance to stay at Give Kids the World® Resort, hang out at the Disney parks, swim in the pool, and best of all, meet Chewie! This is certainly a trip that Hunter and his family will remember for a long time.

Daphne, 11 | Deshler nervous system disorder  
*I wish to have a Service Dog*

Connor, 10 | North Platte genetic disorder  
*I wish to go to Disneyland® Resorts*

Yamana, 10 | Omaha nervous system disorder  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Lucas, 8 | Evansville leukemia  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Gwenevere, 9 | Omaha leukemia  
*I wish to go to Outer Banks of North Carolina*

Chaniya 15 | Omaha cancer  
*I wish to have a Shopping Spree*

Raef 16 | Omaha cancer  
*I wish to meet the Denver Broncos team and see a game*

Zyanna 8 | Omaha Gastrointestinal Disorder  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Reece 10 | Lincoln heart condition  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

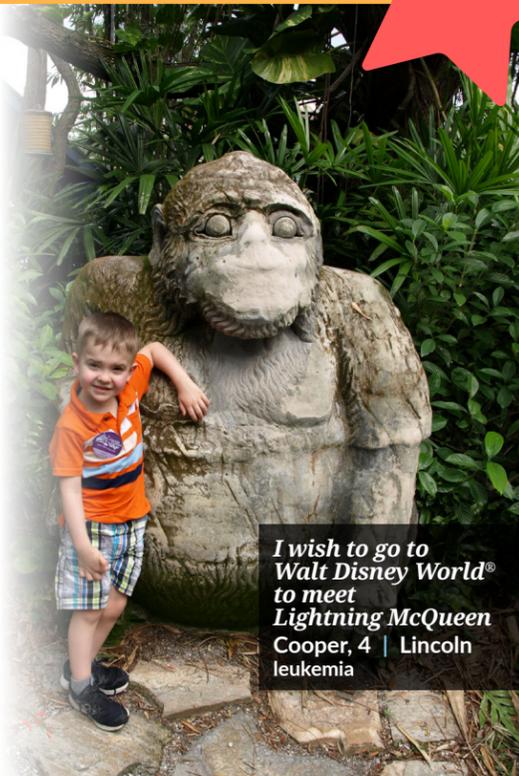
## October 2018

For 4-year-old Cooper, his wish experience began at his wish reveal, which was held at Morrill Hall in Lincoln, NE. He was there with his Mom and Dad and his good friends, the dinosaurs. As an only child, Cooper has found unique ways to use his imagination and entertain himself. In fact, the entire family joined Cooper in pretending to be dinosaurs roaming through the corridors of Morrill Hall that day. It wasn't just the dinosaurs that made Cooper's day so great though, his day became extra special when it was revealed that he was going to Disney World® to meet his hero, Lightning McQueen!

Cooper and his parents went to Orlando especially to see Disney World® and the wonderful characters

who live there, and it's not surprising that, given Cooper's vibrant imagination and outgoing personality, he made friends everywhere he went! Cooper met the pilots on the plane. He got to sit in the pilot's seat and pretend he was flying the plane. He met Mickey and Minnie Mouse and became fast friends with them. One day, he met Rapunzel and even taught her to jump like a frog ... an important skill to have if you ever need to escape from a tower.

For Cooper and his parents, this trip was more than a vacation, it was an escape from hospitals and medical treatments. They may never need to jump from a tower or run from dinosaurs or even pilot their own plane, but thanks to Cooper and his new friends, they are now ready for anything.



**I wish to go to Walt Disney World® to meet Lightning McQueen**  
Cooper, 4 | Lincoln leukemia

For any country music-loving, Dolly Parton fan, visiting Nashville, Tennessee is a must. That is why when wish kid Chloe was asked what she wanted her wish to be, she knew she had to go to Nashville to see Dollywood and visit the Grand Ole Opry. Little did she know though, her wish trip turned out even more magical, musical and special than she anticipated.

Chloe left Omaha in December with her mom, dad, sister and brother. Their trip couldn't have been planned at a more perfect time, because they were visiting right when the Grand Ole Opry moved back to the historic Ryman Auditorium for its holiday performances. That meant Chloe got to experience the Opry in the building where it all began years ago – on the very stage where Nashville heroes

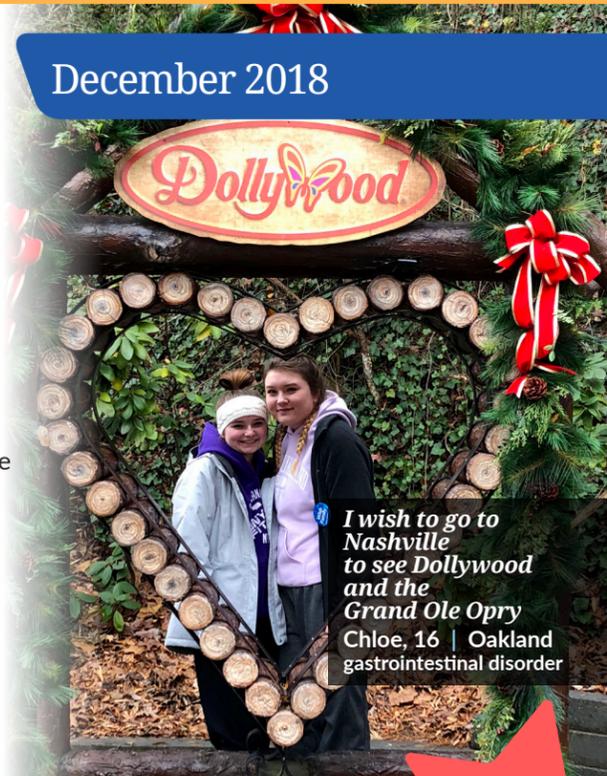
like Elvis Presley, Hank Williams and Johnny Cash played.

The trip continued with a tour of the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum. This museum holds one of the world's most extensive musical collections with over 200,000 sound recordings, nearly 500,000 photos of country artists and hundreds of musical instruments.

The trip was rounded out with a visit to Dollywood where Chloe and her family saw the Dolly Parton Stampeded Dinner show, which was Chloe's favorite memory of the trip. A close second, was meeting a few current country performers when the family was eating at a local restaurant.

This wish definitely brought some special music and memories to Chloe and her family.

## December 2018



**I wish to go to Nashville to see Dollywood and the Grand Ole Opry**  
Chloe, 16 | Oakland gastrointestinal disorder

Perla, 15 | Lincoln cancer  
*I wish to meet J Belvin*

Damon, 15 | Lincoln respiratory failure  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Alejandro, 4 | Lexington cancer  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Madelynn, 9 | Papillion nervous system disorder  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Zoe, 8 | Lincoln brain tumor  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Kalib, 10 | Grand Island heart condition  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Noah, 4 | Omaha nervous system disorder  
*I wish to have Sensory items*

Jackson, 5 | South Sioux City heart condition  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Gunnar, 6 | Omaha cystic fibrosis  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Ryker, 7 | Lincoln nervous system disorder  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

## January 2019

For wish kid Briony magic is real. She experienced it at her send off party for her wish trip to visit Universal Studios® and the Harry Potter World in Orlando. She saw the magic in the pink cupcakes, the pink balloons and the pink punch at her party. She heard it in her parent's laughter. She felt it when her scan said she was cancer-free after her last chemotherapy treatment.

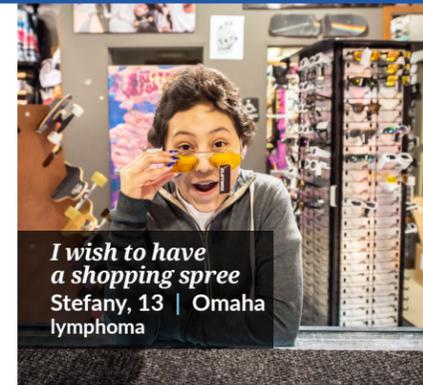
The magic didn't stop there though. Soon after her party, Briony, her parents and her two sisters got to experience the magic of the actual wish. They were whisked off in a limousine, and flown to Orlando where they enjoyed rides, met characters, ate ice cream and had a truly magical experience.

Briony knew she loved the parks in Orlando. Her family had been there before. So, for Briony, this was an easy wish. She wanted to return someplace that made her happy and this time she wanted to share it with a little sister who was not born the last time they were there. When she was asked about her wish, the most important component was "doing something with my family."

She also explicitly wished to visit Harry Potter World. Maybe because she loves Harry Potter. Maybe because she absolutely believes in magic. Maybe because she wanted to introduce her baby sister to Hogwarts because her name is Luna just like one of the characters in the Harry Potter books.



Briony's trip was just the magical experience she and her family needed. It cast a spell of happiness on them that they will always remember and appreciate.



Like any 13-year-old girl, Stefany loves to shop. To put it simply, she explained: "I love shopping and clothes." So a shopping spree with her

mother and best friend was a perfect wish for this young woman.

The day started with a limousine arriving at her home and a quick trip to the bank where she received her bankroll for the day. She started with the serious stuff – a new TV, game system and games. She also got the things she needed to redecorate her room – new bedding, drapes, a chair and rug. Then, she moved into full pampering mode. She bought new shoes, clothes, lotions and fragrances.

## March 2019

When she first talked about her wish and why she wanted to do it, she said she imagined herself with lots of bags and lots of laughter. The wish turned out exactly like that. She had bags of clothes and things for her room ... and there was lots of laughter – in the limo and in the stores.

It was exactly the sound you want to hear from a 13-year-old. This shopping spree was the perfect way to focus on her and the things she loves -- not her illness.

Wyatt, 12 | LaVista  
lung disorder  
*I wish to go to a Pittsburgh Penguins game*

Alex, 14 | Elkhorn  
cystic fibrosis  
*I wish to go to Atlantis*

Ingrid, 4 | Lincoln  
heart transplant  
*I wish to go to an all-inclusive family resort in US*

Kamarria, 17 | Omaha  
leukemia  
*I wish to go to the Bahamas*

Anthony, 18 | Omaha  
rare disease  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®/ Universal*

Brenna, 10 | Norfolk  
nervous system disorder  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Griffin, 12 | Omaha  
genetic disease  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Ellie, 3 | Hebron  
cancer  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Declan, 4 | Holdrege  
neuromuscular disorder  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Daisy, 9 | Omaha  
brain tumor  
*I wish to go to go to Japan*

Parker, 7 | Kearney  
rare heart condition  
*I wish to go to Legoland in FL*

Daniel, 13 | Omaha  
leukemia  
*I wish to have a Shopping Spree*

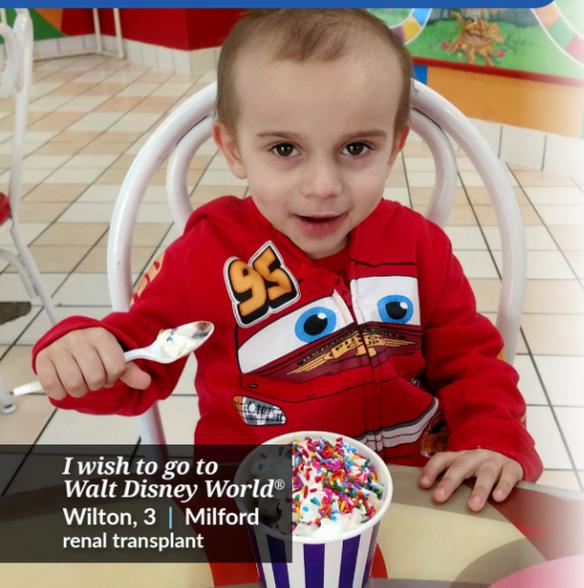
Asher, 4 | Tekamah  
genetic disorder  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Kendall, 14 | Omaha  
nervous system disorder  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Diamond, 18 | Omaha  
respiratory disorder  
*I wish to have Sensory equipment*

Fatima, 12 | South Sioux City  
neuromuscular disorder  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

## February 2019



Like most 4-year-olds, Wilton likes to play. Whether he's playing with his trucks, playing in the pool, following his siblings around, or playing chase with his family, Wilton likes to stay active.

Which is why when it came time to tell his wish granters what he wanted for his wish, it was hard for Wilton to decide on one thing! However, after talking through various options, Wilton decided that what he wanted to do most of all was go to Disney World® to meet all the characters there. Wilton also wanted to go because he knew he could have a fun

time going on all the rides with his brother and sister.

For wish kids like Wilton, a wish is more than a moment in time, it's a chance for them to forget about medical treatments, at least for a little bit, and just be kids. Between the rides and meeting all the Disney characters, this is one memory that will stay with Wilton and his family for a long time.



For 16-year-old Leo, medical treatments have been a part of his everyday life. Leo was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis when he was 9 months old. This illness not only affected Leo, but his whole family who had to adapt to a new daily regimen and help Leo through his treatments and medications.

However, Leo's illness doesn't stop him from doing the things he loves.

Like a lot of teenagers, Leo likes to spend his time watching movies, skateboarding, playing video games and is even known to crack a few jokes. When Leo was told he was receiving a wish, he thought back to a videogame he had been playing and remembered seeing the beautiful landscape of the Salt Water Flats in Bolivia and wanted to visit them in person with his family. Plus, Leo had

## April 2019

never been outside the United States and knew this would be a cool place to visit for his first international trip.

For his family, this trip was a break from all the medical treatments and resulted in an experience they will remember and talk about for a long time.

"[Make-A-Wish] provides dreams that these kids may never be able to fulfill due to illness and life expectancy. Make-A-Wish lets a child/teenager be a kid," said Leo's mother DeAnn.

David, 17 | Omaha  
cancer  
*I wish to meet the cast of Supernatural*

Jakob, 11 | Weston  
neuromuscular disorder  
*I wish to have a Shopping Spree*

Kashden, 3 | Lincoln  
nervous system disorder  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Jerzi, 8 | Omaha  
cancer  
*I wish to go on a Disney Cruise Line®*

Emry, 5 | York  
kidney transplant  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Lillie, 18 | Bellevue  
nervous system disorder  
*I wish to go to "The Avengers: End Game" premiere*

Ellie, 10 | Auburn  
neuromuscular disorder  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*



*I wish to go to Walt Disney World® to see the Haunted Mansion*  
Caleb, 10 | Lincoln  
gastrointestinal disorder

disorder. He was also in the hospital right before Christmas and over New Years. Not a great set of holidays to spend in the hospital.

When asked what he wanted his wish to be, Caleb knew he wanted to go to Disney World® but for a very specific reason – to see the Haunted Mansion.

Caleb, as a Halloween buff, already knew everything there was to know about the Mansion – its history, its features, its characters, its every nook and cranny. He had studied it. He had watched videos about it. It was and still is his special place. You might wonder: how many times did they go through the Mansion on their trip? The answer is three times. On the third trip, Caleb was surprised when the staff made him an honorary butler complete with a uniform. He welcomed other guests into the Mansion that day— perhaps having an even more spooktacular day than he would have had on Halloween.

If you are 9 years old and Halloween is your very favorite holiday, the worst possible place to spend it might be the hospital.

That is where Caleb spent last Halloween after he was diagnosed with a gastrointestinal

Both Make-A-Wish Nebraska and the Haunted Mansion will always hold a special place in Caleb's heart. His mother said Make-A-Wish took over all the family's worries, cares and concerns. The trip gave them the huge gift of being able to relax and have fun as a family. It allowed them

to reconnect to everything good in their lives. Caleb and his family know he has a long road ahead of him, which is why they are committed to living and enjoying every day to the fullest, just like they did at Disney World®.



Imagine that two of your favorite people in the world are Mickey and Minnie Mouse. Then imagine you get to spend your 8th birthday with them, and they sing to you, and hug you and take pictures with you. Well, that is exactly what happened to wish kid Aliyah.

Aliyah's wish was to go to Disney World®; but really, it was to meet and spend time with Minnie and Mickey. Meeting them and all the other characters was her favorite part of the wish, but there were many, many other highlights. Aliyah loved the Light Parade every night. She loved the Dolphin Encounter and seeing the whales at Sea World®. She even had the chance to be a part of the Lion King show at the Amazon Kingdom!

Aliyah's illness requires her to use a wheelchair to get around, however, that never slowed her down for a minute on this trip. She got to see, and do, and be all the things she wanted. It was exactly the experience she wanted. The wish also let Aliyah spend time with her other favorite people in the world – her family. It was a trip and an experience they will all remember. After all, how many people can say they spent their birthday with Mickey and Minnie Mouse?



*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*  
Aliyah, 8 | Grand Island  
nervous system disorder



Oscar, 6 | Omaha  
gastrointestinal disorder  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Frederick, 4 | Broken Bow  
cancer  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Nicholas, 15 | Lincoln  
kidney disease  
*I wish to go to the Last Dinosaur concert in LA*

Talia, 10 | Omaha  
congenital heart disease  
*I wish to have a shopping spree at the American Girl store in Kansas City*

Audrey, 16 | Omaha  
nervous system disorder  
*I wish to have Sensory Items*

Julian, 4 | Lincoln  
cancer  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Ella, 8 | LaVista  
leukemia  
*I wish to have a Playstructure*

Dax, 4 | Broken Bow  
liver transplant  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Lucas, 13 | Pleasanton  
genetic disorder  
*I wish to have a Hoyer lift*

Kylie, 5 | Lincoln  
brain tumor  
*I wish to go on a Disney Cruise Line*

Mason, 17 | Firth  
autoimmune disorder  
*I wish to go to the KTM Factory in Austria*

Tristen, 16 | Plattsmouth  
lymphoma  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Violeta, 8 | Lincoln  
bone marrow transplant  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Christopher, 12 | Waverly  
rare disease  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Zachary, 17 | Centerville  
nervous system disorder  
*I wish to go to Rome*

Kamryn, 18 | Grand Island  
blood disorder  
*I wish to go to Hawaii*

Gage, 6 | Omaha  
cancer  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Samuel, 11 | Omaha  
liver transplant  
*I wish to go to Legoland in CA*

Blaise, 7 | Oakland  
congenital heart disease  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Wyatt, 5 | Kearney  
cancer  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Elliott, 4 | Waterloo  
neurological disorder  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Maci, 4 | Omaha  
genetic disorder  
*I wish to have a Playstructure*

Davis, 7 | Lincoln  
leukemia  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Jack, 8 | Omaha  
bone marrow transplant  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Bentley, 6 | Omaha  
skeletal disorder  
*I wish to go to NY/NJ*

Lyndsey, 13 | Benedict  
brain tumor  
*I wish to meet Carrie Underwood*

Isabel, 5 | Callaway  
rare disease  
*I wish to have a Camper*

Diagnosed at a young age with a nervous system disorder, 5-year-old Alexis has always found a way to express herself through her hobbies and passions. For instance, she loves soft music, listening to her parents read to her, being pampered by having her hair and nails done; and maybe, most importantly, Alexis loves animals. All animals, but especially dogs.

Now, thanks to her wish granters, she has a special dog. One that she loves more than all the other dogs in the world. This dog is named Bella, a purebred Goldendoodle puppy, and Alexis' new comfort dog.

Bella was unnamed prior to adoption, so Alexis and her family had the opportunity to pick a name. They did an excellent job. Bella means beautiful in Italian, and she certainly is. Even more importantly, she has a beautiful and loving personality, so she is a great companion dog. For Alexis and her family, Bella is a friend who knows just how to cheer you up when you're feeling down.

Bella spent a few weeks with a trainer before joining Alexis and her family. The trainer taught Bella a few tricks, but Bella already had the most important skill needed—she knows how to love a little girl.



Three-year-old Addilyn had one, very simple wish — to have a party with her doctors and nurses.

Diagnosed with a genetic disorder, it's no surprise that hospital visits have become a part of her everyday life. This is why when Addilyn and her family met with her wish granters, they decided to use her wish to honor the people who have helped take care of her and support her from day one—her amazing care team at Children's Hospital & Medical Center in Omaha.

When the day of Addilyn's party arrived, she showed up the way any VIP party guest should—in a limousine. When she arrived, Addilyn and her family were greeted by a cheering crowd of doctors, nurses and of course, her wish granters. The whole atrium at Children's Hospital was decked out in Addilyn's favorite



color, purple. There were also lots of treats for guests to enjoy including a sundae bar, a butterfly cake, cookies, and punch!

Although Addilyn was the guest of honor at the party, she wanted to make sure to give back to the hospital and show them just how grateful she

was for all their care and support. So, in honor of Addilyn and her family, the Children's Hospital was gifted two sensory fish aquariums to be displayed at the hospital for other families to enjoy and to become a symbol of hope for other children battling critical illnesses.

Emma, 16 | Omaha cancer  
*I wish to go to Paris, France*

Gerard, 4 | Omaha leukemia  
*I wish to have a Playstructure*

Robert, 11 | Ord cancer  
*I wish to go to Legoland in CA*

TayLynn, 7 | Beatrice genetic disorder  
*I wish to have a Camper*

Mckenzie, 14 | Juniata nervous system disorder  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Killian, 9 | Doniphan autoimmune disorder  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Leslie, 12 | Omaha kidney disorder  
*I wish to have a Shopping Spree*

Connor, 3 | Bellevue brain tumor  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Fernando, 14 | Omaha neuromuscular disorder  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Keeley, 18 | Aurora nervous system disorder  
*I wish to go to Atlantis*

Myrrh, 9 | Lincoln blood disorder  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*

Joselyn, 17 | Omaha lymphoma  
*I wish to go to Atlantis to swim with the pigs*

Isaiah, 15 | Bellevue lymphoma  
*I wish to go to CA/Universal Studios*

Dler, 15 | Lincoln neuromuscular disorder  
*I wish to have an Electronic Shopping spree*

Keylee, 8 | Table Rock lymphoma  
*I wish to go to Hawaii- Aulani*

## This newsletter is dedicated to the memory of our wish kids who passed away this fiscal year

John, 23 | Bellevue brain cancer  
*I wish to attend DigiPen in WA to learn how to develop gaming software*  
(Wish year 2016)

Alex, 3 | Blair genetic disorder  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*  
(Wish year 2018)

Dylan, 10 | Grand Island nervous system disorder  
*I wish to have a pink princess castle playhouse*  
(Wish year 2014)

Teynor, 22 | Kearney brain cancer  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*  
(Wish year 2001)

Paysen, 7 | Newman Grove nervous system disorder  
*I wish to have a playstructure with special swings*  
(Wish year 2017)

Trevor, 15 | Columbus leukemia  
*I wish to go to the World of Dance*  
(passed away prior to wish)

Michelle, 11 | Grant cancer  
*I wish to go on a Disney Cruise Line®*  
(Wish year 2017)

Khloe, 5 | Norfolk brain cancer  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*  
(Wish year 2017)

Parker, 19 | York rare disease  
*I wish to have a Care Bike*  
(Wish year 2010)

Zoe, 8 | Lincoln brain cancer  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*  
(Wish year 2018)

Daisy, 12 | Omaha cancer  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World® and Universal Studios*  
(Wish year 2017)

Caleb, 5 | Papillion brain cancer  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*  
(Wish year 2018)

Jerzi, 8 | Omaha cancer  
*I wish to go on a Disney Cruise Line®*  
(Wish year 2019)

Macy, 20 | Omaha Heart transplant  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*  
(Wish year 2001)

Isaac, 14 | Omaha cancer  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*  
(Wish year 2018)

Dallas, 12 | St. Paul brain cancer  
*I wish to go to Walt Disney World®*  
(Wish year 2017)

# Make-A-Wish®

NEBRASKA

**Headquarters**  
11836 Arbor Street  
Omaha, NE 68144

**Lincoln satellite office**  
8033 South 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite B  
Lincoln, NE 68512

**Kearney satellite office**  
412 East 25<sup>th</sup> St, Suite D  
Kearney, NE 68847

 /MakeAWishNebraska

 @MakeAWishNE

 @makeawishnebraska

If you know someone who would like to receive our mailings, or if you wish to be removed from our mailing list please contact our office by email [info@nebraska.wish.org](mailto:info@nebraska.wish.org) or call 800-760-9474.

## To refer a child:

Visit [www.nebraska.wish.org](http://www.nebraska.wish.org)  
Call 800-760-WISH (9474)

Together, we create life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses.

## Events

### ***Holiday Gift Wrap***

December 2-24, 2019 | Omaha

### ***Radiothon***

December 6, 2019 | Omaha

### ***Wheel of Wishes***

December 6, 2019 | Lincoln

### ***Wish Ball***

February 15, 2020 | Lincoln

### ***Blue Jean Ball***

April 25, 2020 | Omaha

### ***Wine, Whiskey and Wishes***

May 14, 2020 | Omaha

### ***Truck Center Companies Annual Golf Tournament***

June 2020 | Omaha

### ***Evening of Wishes Gala***

August 20, 2020 | Kearney

### ***Wine, Whiskey and Wishes***

September 2020 | Lincoln

Visit [nebraska.wish.org](http://nebraska.wish.org) to learn more