

Make-A-Wish[®]
MICHIGAN

20
19

ANNUAL REPORT

*I wish to dance
with the Rockettes*

Dalilah, 9
acute lymphoblastic leukemia

A young boy with a joyful expression is dressed as a chef. He wears a tall, white, pleated chef's hat and a white chef's jacket with visible buttons. He holds a large, bright blue plastic spoon across his chest with both hands. The background is a rustic wooden wall. On the right side of the image, there is a large, stylized blue letter 'T' and a teal curved line that sweeps across the frame. The overall mood is positive and aspirational.

T

I wish to be a chef

Forrest, 4
acute lymphoblastic leukemia
10,000th Michigan wish kid

Together,

WE CREATE LIFE-CHANGING WISHES FOR CHILDREN WITH CRITICAL ILLNESSES.

.....

Dear Make-A-Wish Friends,

Because of our generous Michigan community, we granted 416 wishes to Michigan children last year. This means that more than 400 wish kids and families experienced the transformational power of a wish, a wish that was only possible through your support.

This year we celebrated 35 years of wish granting in Michigan and the granting of our 10,000th wish to a Michigan child. As we wrap up our 35th anniversary year, there are so many more children who are still waiting for their wishes to come true. The number of referrals is higher than ever before, and right now there are more than 800 Michigan children battling critical illnesses in need of the hope and strength that a wish provides.

We are committed to being a vital resource to our inspiring children and families, and to ensure that we reach more children each year and infuse their lives with the power of possibilities and the opportunity to create memories that last a lifetime.

We are so grateful for all of you who make wishes possible for our courageous Michigan children—our volunteers, donors, corporate friends, event participants and community supporters.

On behalf of the Make-A-Wish® Michigan volunteer Board of Directors and staff team, thank you for your tremendous support and all that you do to create life-changing wishes for children in our community. We wish you and your family the very best in the year ahead.


With gratitude,



Ken Stanecki
Board Chair



Karen Davis
President & CEO



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

Briella, 13
T-cell lymphoma

Make-A-Wish has changed my life not once but twice

BY BRANDY, WISH SISTER AND WISH MOM

Thirty-five years ago, in January 1984, my brother Joshua was the first wish to be granted in Michigan. As an 8-year-old girl, I remember him being sick a lot because of the cancer. When he went into the hospital, it was very scary, and I really missed him. Even as a child, I felt the stress and the worry.

Josh's trip to *Walt Disney World*® Resort was moved up because his health was failing. Knowing now that he would pass away soon after the trip, it was even more special knowing we had such a fun time together as a family.

Fast forward to April 2017 when my husband Nate and I noticed that our daughter Briella was not acting like her normal bubbly self. Over the next four months, Briella's gums became so swollen that she couldn't eat so she was rapidly losing weight.

After six doctor visits, we took her in for an ultrasound. The cancer was everywhere. Briella stayed in the ICU for 17 days following the initial diagnosis.

I was very worried about her long and beautiful hair falling out in clumps and the stress that she would feel from that. My mother-in-law cut Briella's hair into a cute little pixie bob, but Briella was so sad about her hair. That was a defining moment for her in accepting her diagnosis of T-cell lymphoma.

Briella has always wanted to go to *Walt Disney World*® Resort so that is where she wished to go. It was a life-changing trip for our family. It brought our family together. It took the stress and the worry away. It was something fun to look forward to, especially when we were spending so much time in hospitals.



TOP: Briella and her family
on her wish trip

RIGHT: Brandy and Josh on
Josh's wish trip



Through all the hospital stays and appointments, it was hard not being able to be there for our two boys on top of the stress that we had for our ill child. The wish washed all of that away, and it reconnected us. At the end of it, the wish made our love for each other even stronger. It was literally a trip of a lifetime.

It is such a blessing that Make-A-Wish has given to my family not once but twice. It gets overwhelming sometimes at how much people care and what they have done to help these children like Josh and Briella. To have that time together—first on Josh's wish and then Briella's wish—is just a miracle that I will be forever grateful for.

**“AT THE END OF IT, THE WISH
MADE OUR LOVE FOR EACH OTHER**

even stronger.”



*Michelle McCormick, left,
with fellow volunteer Janice
Bourlier and wish kid Jeffrey*

positive energy

Over the years, Michelle McCormick heard her friend in Houston rave about being a wish-granting volunteer for the local Make-A-Wish® chapter.

“She would share her passion and remind me that when the time is right, I should consider becoming a wish granter,” Michelle explained.

Now that Michelle’s children are adults, she felt inspired to make a difference. Recalling her friend’s words about Make-A-Wish, she signed up to become a volunteer.

In her first year supporting Make-A-Wish, Michelle’s volunteer efforts have included wish granting, volunteering at the children’s activity tent at Walk For Wishes® and serving on the planning committee for Wish Ball – Southeast Michigan.

With her husband Tim recently completing his wish training, the couple plans to make road trips across the state to meet with wish kids to discover their one heartfelt wish.

When it comes to making enhancement items for her wish kids, Michelle loves to go to the Dollar Store.

“I put shredded confetti in the kiddo’s packages with puzzles, crafts and the child’s favorite treats,” Michelle said. “I also like to create simple photo books or collages with pictures of their wishes.”

Michelle believes the Make-A-Wish mission truly resonates with her because she knows the power of positive energy. “Make-A-Wish is all about spreading positivity to its kiddos and their families,” Michelle said. “I love to make hearts happy.”

Would you like to make a difference in the lives of children with critical illnesses in your community? Make-A-Wish Michigan is actively seeking volunteers throughout the state. To learn more about becoming a volunteer and when the next volunteer training will be in your area, please email volunteer@michigan.wish.org or call 800.622.9474.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER



Make an impact in the life of a child battling a critical illness, while also positively impacting their family and the community.



Learn specific skills needed to succeed in your role via role-specific trainings.



Utilize skills, talents and interests that may not be used in your day-to-day life.



Share your knowledge, wisdom and experience with other volunteers.



Meet new people, develop new skills and discover new experiences.



Bring joy and hope to those who receive wishes.

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President & CEO
Make-A-Wish Michigan



Sue Jandernoa,
board member

Red Glasses Movement

Seven women crossed the Trailblaze Challenge finish line while sporting red glasses in honor of their Red Glasses Movement team.

The women hiked 21 miles in honor of Sue Jandernoa's granddaughter Audrey, who had passed away in January 2018 due to a severe respiratory illness. Audrey, who had Down Syndrome, was known for wearing her red glasses.

"She was a force to be reckoned with," Jandernoa said. "She was full of life and knew no boundaries. She loved everyone and lived big."

As they prepared for the second annual Trailblaze Challenge, the Red Glasses Movement team raised more than \$30,000 for Make-A-Wish Michigan.

"In many ways, it feels like Audrey is helping to grant these wishes," Jandernoa said. "That also warms our hearts."



"IN MANY WAYS, IT FEELS LIKE AUDREY IS
HELPING TO GRANT THESE WISHES. THAT ALSO
warms our hearts."

SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGNS. LIFE-CHANGING

partnerships

Our national corporate sponsors share a deep commitment to our vision to grant every eligible child's wish. Through their tremendous generosity, they are providing a direct avenue to make a tangible impact on kids' emotional well-being. Their enthusiasm for our mission attracts many others to the cause, creating a deeper wish community.



The Walt Disney Company and Make-A-Wish have a longstanding history together. Since 1980, Disney has helped create experiences that brighten lives through the donation of theme park passes, special visits with animators and characters, film and TV set experiences and VIP perks.



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

Joshua, 8
blood disorder

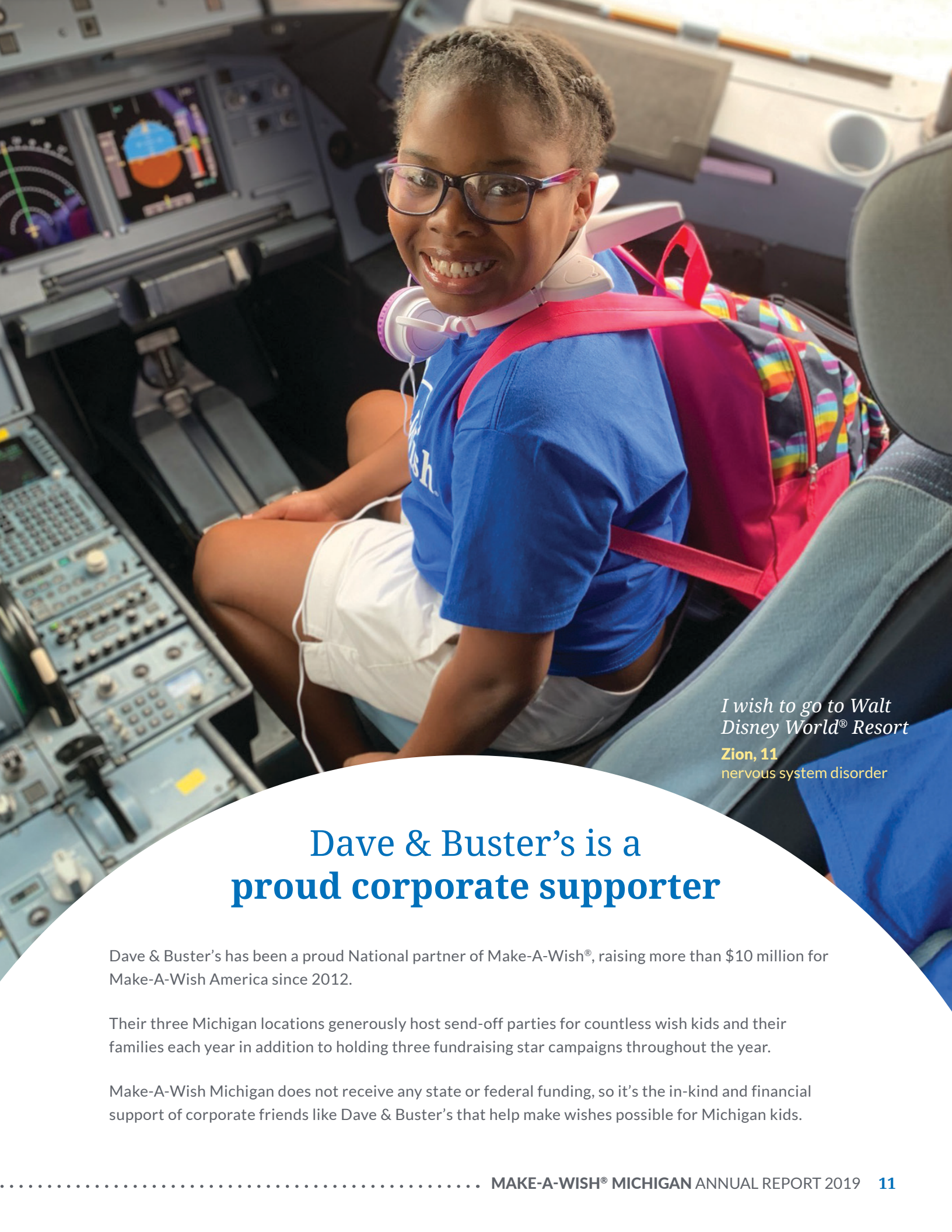


*I wish to have
tuition assistance*

Zayna, 18
acute lymphoblastic
leukemia



Macy's and its colleagues always create priceless moments for wish kids and their families, including wish reveals, personal shoppers and hosting kids in-store. Sponsors like Macy's help us get closer to reaching every eligible child.



*I wish to go to Walt
Disney World® Resort*
Zion, 11
nervous system disorder

Dave & Buster's is a proud corporate supporter

Dave & Buster's has been a proud National partner of Make-A-Wish®, raising more than \$10 million for Make-A-Wish America since 2012.

Their three Michigan locations generously host send-off parties for countless wish kids and their families each year in addition to holding three fundraising star campaigns throughout the year.

Make-A-Wish Michigan does not receive any state or federal funding, so it's the in-kind and financial support of corporate friends like Dave & Buster's that help make wishes possible for Michigan kids.

wish kid demographics



60%
Male



40%
Female



29%
2.5-5 years



19%
6-8 years



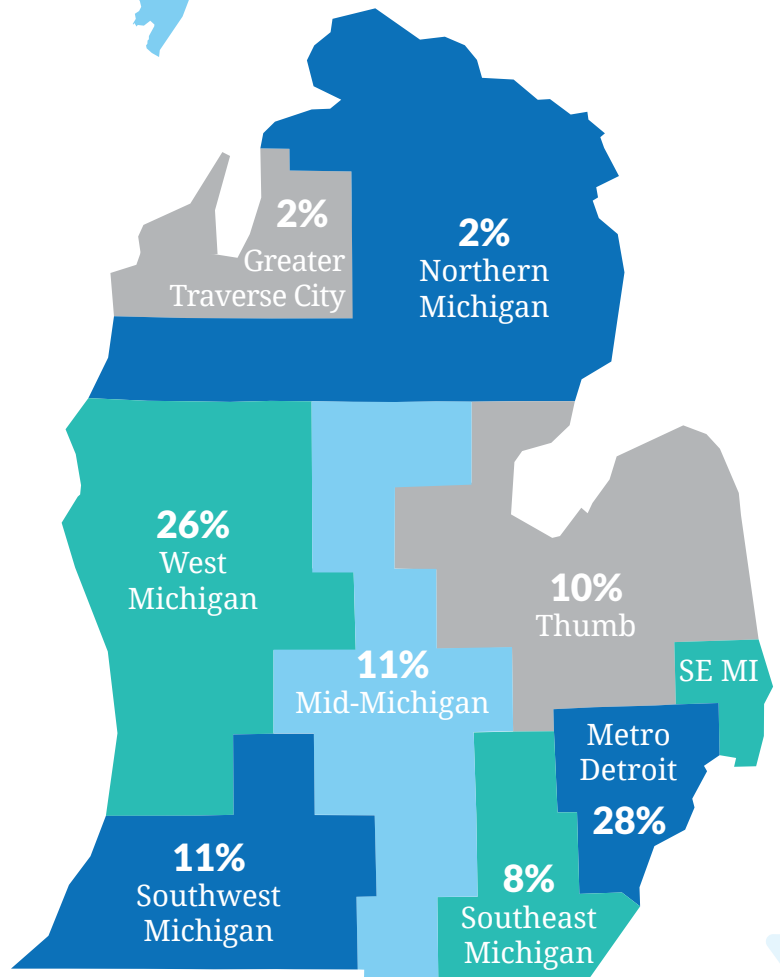
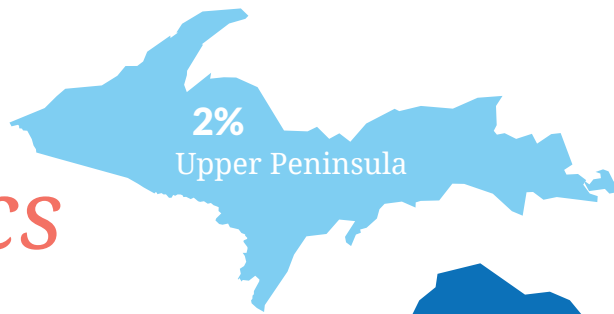
15%
9-11 years



15%
12-14 years



22%
15+ years



the value of a wish come true



\$5,758
average cash cost



\$5,155
average in-kind value



\$10,913
average value of a wish

top ten
I wish to...



43%

go to a Disney
theme park



10%

meet a
celebrity



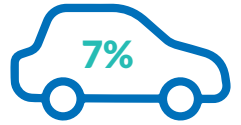
7%

go to
Hawaii



7%

travel
internationally



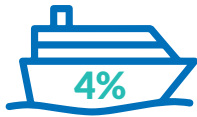
7%

travel within the
United States



8%

have a
shopping spree



4%

go on
a cruise



3%

have a playset
or playhouse



1%

have
electronics



10%

other unique
wishes

More than **85%** of wishes involve air travel



416

*Michigan kids
experienced
transformational
wishes in 2019*



Wish-A-Mile® Bicycle Tour



Trailblaze



Walk For Wishes® -
West Michigan

WITH THE HELP OF THE

putting wish

Walk For Wishes® -
Southeast Michigan



Challenge



Wish-A-Mile® Bicycle Tour

MICHIGAN COMMUNITY, WE'RE *es in motion*

*I wish to have
camera equipment*

Oscar, 18
congenital heart disease



TURNING GENEROSITY INTO LIFE-CHANGING

experiences

Make-A-Wish Michigan is deeply committed to being the best steward of your gifts. We take great pride in safeguarding your generous contributions as donors, corporate sponsors and community supporters. Thank you for placing your trust in our efforts and our ability to optimize resources and direct funds to programs and services that help us pursue our mission.

We invite you to review our financial statements and feel confident that your investment in Make-A-Wish will grant more transformational wishes.

Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
Year ended August 31, 2019

TOTAL REVENUES, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT	\$9,702,951
EXPENSES	
Total Program Services	\$6,323,607
Support services	
Fundraising	\$2,027,263
Management and general	\$885,416
Total support services	\$2,912,679
TOTAL PROGRAM AND SUPPORT SERVICE EXPENSES	\$9,236,286
TOTAL CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$466,665
Net assets, beginning of the year, before change in accounting principle	(\$355,615)
Change in accounting principle	\$4,011,050
Net assets, beginning of the year, as adjusted	\$3,655,435
NET ASSETS, END OF THE YEAR	\$4,122,100

Copies of our audited financial statements for the year ended August 31, 2019 are available on our website at michigan.wish.org/about-us/our-chapter/managing-funds



*I wish to go
to the NBA
All-Star Game*

Ma'Koi, 16
seizure disorder

I wish to see the ocean

Katiana, 7
cystic fibrosis



Make-A-Wish[®]

MICHIGAN

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

michigan.wish.org

800.622.WISH



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