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# **Wishes Granted!**







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### A Little Girl with a Big Heart



Make A-Wish.

I wish to give back to St. Luke's Rosie, 7







In January of 2020, Rosie fell ill during a field trip and was rushed to the hospital. It was cancer. Rosie was treated at the St. Luke's Children's Cancer Institute. Hospital staff said Rosie had trouble adjusting to her illness. Naturally bubbly and energetic, she hated feeling so tired and weak. However, toys donated to the St. Luke's helped buoy her spirits while she underwent treatment. By August 2020, Rosie was cancer free.

"She is a rock star," Rosie's mom, Janelle, said. "I never realized how tough of a kid she is, and my heart broke every day, seeing her go through all that and doing it with such grace and composure."

Rosie made a lot of friends while in the hospital, and when she was given a wish, she knew she wanted to help others who were going through what she had just been through. St. Luke's has a website with a list of donation requests, so Rosie used her heartfelt wish to buy as many toys off of the list as she could!

On April 29, World Wish Day 2021, Rosie towed a wagon-load of dolls towards the hospital. The St. Luke's staff and her family gathered in an outdoor plaza. Rosie's favorite doctors and nurses accepted the donations during a small outdoor ceremony.

We asked Rosie what advice she'd give to other kids going through an illness and she said, "Be brave, and let the doctors do their jobs."

Donations Make Wishes Possible



## MARK BARTON

VOLUNTEER IN BOISE

#### **PERSONAL PROFILE**

#### Occupation:

I work for Tandem Diabetes Care. I manage a team of 12-15 agents that support the Tandem insulin pump. My wife and I also own a food truck called Food Baby.

#### Family:

I have my wife, Rhianna, and her children (4). I also have 3 children of my own: twin daughters and my son. I'm a lucky guy with a big family!

#### **Hobbies:**

The family is really into paddle boarding right now. This year, I'm taking my board down the Boise River! I also enjoy mountain biking, hiking, and we love traveling to places we've never been.

#### **VOLUNTEER PROFILE**

Years Assisting Make-A-Wish® Idaho: 6

#### Q & A

#### What would your wish be?

Definitely traveling with my family to Santorini, Greece. I've always wanted to stay in one of those cave hotels. If you haven't seen them, look them up!

#### What's your role with MAW Idaho?

I help out with recruiting volunteers for the annual events

#### **Favorite Make-A-Wish memory?**

The first Walk for Wishes event that I worked in 2015. I met some of the staff and regular volunteers. It was a great experience for me, and I got to be part of something meaningful. After that, I was hooked!!

#### What was your inspiration to help?

For me, it's the stories that I've heard from the Make-A-Wish families and kids that I've met along the way. Some of the volunteers that I have worked with were once wish kids themselves.

They speak of their experience with Make-A-Wish as a positive, during an otherwise challenging time. It's easy to be inspired when you hear so many great stories that involve this organization.

#### Final thoughts?

If you are thinking about helping, don't hesitate. My time volunteering here has made me a better person, I'm proud to be a volunteer. Every time you leave an event, you can count on feeling good about the time you put in. Come see for yourself, you won't regret it.



# Board Spotlight: Samantha Schmitt



I am fortunate to have lived most of my life in Idaho. I was born and raised in Caldwell and attended Caldwell High School and then the College of Idaho (back when it was still Albertson's College of Idaho). After graduating with a political science/economics degree in 2004, I moved to Wisconsin to work on a political campaign. In 2011, I decided it was time to move back to Idaho to be closer to my family. In 2013, I started law school and graduated from Concordia University School of Law in 2016. Since graduating, I have been working as general counsel at St. Luke's Health System.

It has always been a dream of mine to work with Make-A-Wish Idaho. Having been a child with health issues, I understand how upsetting and hard it can be to deal with everyday life situations. Make-A-Wish Idaho has the ability to make dreams come true, and it has been my dream to be a part of this wonderful organization. I am excited to be a part of the board and cannot wait to start making wishes come



Join us for the 7th Annual Walk for Wishes Boise. This year's walk will be an in-person event on June 4 at Esther Simplot Park in Boise. Day-of registration starts at 5:30 p.m., and the walk begins at 6.

Every year the walk raises money to grant life-changing wishes to children with critical illnesses. However, this year there are over 140 kids waiting on their wishes. As the pandemic winds down and the world opens up, we will need some extra help to grant those waiting wishes quickly and efficiently.

In the meantime, we're still safely granting plenty of wishes with a focus on the "to have" and the "to be" wishes.

The Walk for Wishes is a fun, engaging way to support local wish kids. Community support is more important than ever as it shows wish kids that they are not alone during difficult times. Come walk so they can wish!

Sign Up Now:

**REGISTER** 



Now in its 19th year, Serving Up Wishes is a unique fundraiser that partners Make-A-Wish Idaho with Boise State University to make wishes come true for Idaho children. Approximately 80 Boise State University student-athletes, representing every NCAA and Boise State-sponsored men's and women's sport, take part in this high-energy, fun-filled night of nonstop entertainment.

During the evening, Bose State student-athletes showcase their many talents to the delight of the event guests. The evening includes a sit-down dinner, live auction and a presentation from a wish child and/or their family that highlights their special experience.

For more information call Helene Peterson at 208-440-0588.

**Download Ticket Info** 



# A wish begins with **hope**.

Hope begins with **vou**.

The Wish Heroes Campaign celebrates the 35 years of Make-A-Wish Idaho supporters helping to grant life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses. The campaign is based on the power of a selected group of individuals - Wish Heroes - sharing why wishes matter and raising funds for Make-A-Wish Idaho during the campaign timeframe. Each Wish Hero strives to raise \$1,225 during the campaign. Please know that Make-A-Wish Idaho is incredibly grateful for your support of wish kids regardless of the amount you raise. Every dollar matters.

#### WHAT DOES A WISH HERO DO?

As a Wish Hero, you share the reasons why you support Make-A-Wish Idaho with your network. You tell your story and invite your friends to donate and help more wish kids and families experience the life-changing power of a wish.

#### **HOW MUCH DOES A WISH HERO RAISE?**

Each Wish Hero strives to raise \$1,225 during the campaign. Please know that Make-A-Wish Idaho is incredibly grateful for your support of wish kids regardless of the amount. Again, every dollar matters.

## HOW DOES A WISH HERO SHARE THEIR MESSAGE AND COLLECT DONATIONS?

Through a personalized online fundraising page, each Wish Hero shares their story and mobilizes friends, family members and/or colleagues to donate to help ensure local wishes are granted for years to come. When you register to join the campaign, you receive a personal fundraising page. Your personal fundraising page is a webpage that your contacts can visit to read your story and donate. The page is mobile-friendly and very easy to use. (There's even a fundraising app to make your experience simple!)

Sign Up For Wish Heroes!

Be A Hero



#### **Donate Stocks or Other Assets**

If you have appreciated capital assets you've held for more than a year, such as stocks, there may be advantages to donating those directly to Make-A-Wish Idaho instead of selling them and paying tax first and then donating the net proceeds. By donating appreciated assets directly to a not-for-profit:

- 1. You allow the organization to receive the full pretax value of those appreciated assets.
- 2. You may avoid long-term capital gains taxes you might otherwise owe.
- 3. You may be able to deduct the full value of those assets on your tax return as a charitable gift.

For example: Suppose you sell \$1,000 worth of stock that you've held for more than a year to donate the proceeds to a charitable organization. After paying any capital gains taxes, you'd be left with less than \$1,000 to give to the charity.

But if you were to donate that same \$1,000 of appreciated stock directly to Make-A-Wish Idaho:

- 1. The organization can usually sell the stock and receive the full \$1,000, tax-free.
- 2. You could potentially deduct the full \$1,000 value of your donation on your tax return.

To download the securities donation form, click here. For more information, please contact Janie Best at 208.297.6822 or <a href="mailto:jbest@idaho.wish.org">jbest@idaho.wish.org</a>.



Did you know you can make a monthly gift to Make-A-Wish Idaho? It's so simple to do! Your monthly gift will ensure that a wish kid's wish comes true! A monthly gift can be set up automatically on our website and will provide a life-changing wish for a child with a critical illness. To ensure that your contribution goes directly to wish kids in Idaho, be sure to choose the "local" option, and choose Make-A-Wish Idaho.

#### **Give Monthly**

Over one hundred and forty kids are waiting for their wishes to be granted— in Coeur d'Alene, Rexburg, Nampa and communities throughout the state! Thank you for giving the gift of a wish!

**Donate Now** 

Make-A-Wish Idaho 310 W. Idaho Street Boise, ID 83702 Idaho@idaho.wish.org











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