



*I wish to have
a playset*

Nico, 3
cystic fibrosis

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Make-A-Wish®
SOUTHERN FLORIDA



*I wish to have a
pool makeover*

Blake, 7
neurological disease

THANK YOU

For bringing sunshine into
the lives of our *wish kids*.

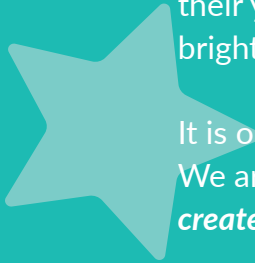
Please visit makeawishdonors.org for a complete listing of our donors.



INTRODUCTION

In a year where the world around us may have changed, one thing stays the same – our focus and steadfast commitment to granting the heartfelt wish of every medically-eligible child. We at Make-A-Wish® Southern Florida know just how essential a wish can be in a child's journey toward recovery.

When a child is diagnosed with a critical illness, their world is turned upside down with treatments, tests and uncertainty. A wish can transform a child's life, restore their youth, give them the strength to overcome the medical battles ahead and brighten their future.



It is our pleasure to share this overview of the transformative wishes that we grant. We are grateful for all that you do to help support our sole mission as ***together, we create life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses.***

Richard Weissman
Chairman, Board of Directors
Make-A-Wish Southern Florida



MESSAGES OF *Hope*

Messages of Hope was a community initiative started by Make-A-Wish America to give our wish kids encouragement and hope that their wishes are not canceled but postponed due to COVID-19. With the help of our local and national supporters we received 45 video and photo Messages of Hope which we shared on our social media pages. Messages came from former wish kids, wish granters, and celebrities including Fran Drescher, Anthony Rizzo, Gordon Ramsay and more. These videos were viewed over **420,000 times.**

During **FY 19-20** we had a total of **22 livestreams** on our Facebook page. **14** 'to have', **2** 'to be', **2** 'to meet', **1** 'to go', **2** parades of hope and **1** wish reveal.



YOUTUBE VIEWS:
21,464



LIVESTREAM VIEWS:
167,591



LIVESTREAM FOLLOWERS:
35,010



MESSAGES OF HOPE VIEWS:
421,877

*I wish to visit the Subaru
factory in Japan (on hold)*

Daniel, 19
cancer

On May 13, 2020 with the help of Coconut Creek Subaru and the North Broward Subaru Club, wish kid **Daniel**, who battles cancer and wishes to go to the Subaru Factory in Japan, was surprised with a Parade of Hope. More than 100 Subaru drivers drove by Daniel's home, giving him and his family hope that his wish will still come true. As of today, the livestream video on Facebook has more than **87,000 views**, **95 comments** and **696 likes**.

*“Not everybody gets
to feel the love like I
did—I’m blessed.”*

– Daniel



Use **THIS** QR code



to watch **Daniel's**
wish video

Wishes

“

This wish means everything to me. Oreo is more than a dog, he is my best friend and I love him with all my heart. He follows me around everywhere and when he takes his naps, he lays down next to me. He's absolutely amazing.

– *Ivonne*



*I wish to have a
French Bulldog puppy*
Ivonne, 12
lymphoma



*I wish to have
a playset*

Nico, 3
cystic fibrosis

NICO SWINGS INTO ACTION

Nico is a fun and carefree boy who loves dinosaurs, trucks, laughing and playing. Because of his battle with cystic fibrosis, his daily life consists of uncomfortable treatments and plenty of doctor visits. More than anything, he wanted to feel like a kid! His family recently moved to a new house and he loves to play outside. His wish to have a playset was the perfect addition to his backyard, something he will use every day. It is the perfect outlet for him to escape his daily medical struggles!

On the day his new playset was revealed, Nico was the happiest he could be! His dream playset has all the features that Nico asked for and so much more. There are all sorts of swings, slides, a rock climbing wall, ladders and a punching bag.

Even better, his older siblings are sure to join in the fun too. His playset provides a safe place to bond with them, and just play! It will be a great distraction from his treatments.

“From the bottom of our hearts, there aren’t too many words that can express how grateful we are to be able to have this dream become reality.”

– Nico’s father

Wish Granters: Leslie Levine & Kara Salsburg-Boehly
Referred by Dr. Jessica Marmanillo
Wish adopted by Levitetz Family Foundation





*I wish to
have a drum set*

Renel, 14
blood disorder

RENEL JAMS TO THE BEAT

Renel thought he was simply attending a Florida Gulf Coast University men's basketball game with his family but there was something special about to take place...

This aspiring musician met his volunteer wish granters a few months earlier. With so much enthusiasm, he told them how much he loves to play the drums. He described how happy it makes him to perform for his family and also at his church. He also told them that his drum set was broken and how he wished he could have a brand new seven-piece drum set. He wanted to practice more at home and hone his talent!

With a little halftime magic in front of a packed Alico Arena, Renel was escorted to center court by Azul the Eagle where his wish came true. A speechless Renel could only stare as his dream drum set was rolled over to him. It was a white seven-piece drum set with black drumsticks – just as he asked for!

Renel's shyness disappeared when he was able to sit down with his new drums in the back area with his family. It was time to jam - - and his pure talent certainly shone through!

“Renel wants to play drums all night long so he will be very happy now.”

– Renel's father

Wish Granters: Erin Dever & Emily Sumpmann
Referred by Tara Hudson, his child life specialist
Wish adopted by Closewatch Services and Florida Gulf Coast University





*I wish to meet
Dr. Arnold*

Julie, 16
chronic lung disease

DR. JULIE MAKES ROUNDS

Dr. Jennifer Arnold from TLC's "The Little Couple" is a huge role model for *Julie*. During treatments at John's Hopkins All Children's Hospital, Julie would beg her mom to walk around looking for her idol. On her wish day, Julie arrived at the same hospital in a limo and was greeted by Dr. Arnold and 40 hospital staff members, all wearing teal "Julianna Day" t-shirts. Their eyes locked and Julie made a beeline to give Dr. Arnold a long, powerful hug. Dr. Arnold said, "She gave me such an emotional hug, it made me cry!"

Sporting a personalized lab coat and neonatal stethoscope, Dr. Julie seized the day with her mentor! Dr. Arnold led Julie on a tour to witness mockup medical emergency situations from the control room. She made molds, scars and bruises in the moulage lab. Julie went on "rounds" in the NICU, discussing fictional patients and their treatments with the other doctors to get a taste of truly being a doctor.

After a delicious pizza lunch and ice cream sundae bar with Dr. Arnold and a surprise guest (her husband, Bill Klein), Julie and the pair practiced medical procedures on a high-tech medical mannequin. Lastly, there was a trip to the roof of the 10-floor building to gear up, learn about emergency helicopter transport of patients, and take a seat inside the helicopter.

"The whole experience was truly humbling. Julie is a bright, strong and amazing young lady. To be part of her day was remarkable."

– Dr. Jen Arnold

Wish Granters: Adam Latham & Jessica A. Martelo
Referred by Angela Raytchev, Julie's mother
Wish adopted by Joffrey's Coffee and Tea Company





*I wish to have
a treehouse*

Janan, 7
respiratory disorder

JANAN CLIMBS TO HAPPINESS

When the treehouse construction in his backyard began, **Janan** was ecstatic. His mother said, "I just can't – I keep crying! I am so over the moon grateful. Janan saw the lumber trucks pull up as he headed off to school. He may have been floating!"

This treehouse is a special way for Janan and his family to spend more time together. Hours pass by in what seems like minutes in this fantastic treehouse which includes rock climbing, a rope bridge, slides, and a zipline! The treehouse is a perfect fit for him and his siblings to go camping in. Janan's father said it best: "Janan wanted a treehouse...and my vision of a treehouse was not this!"

Whether it's a morning for swinging down the zipline or a relaxing afternoon with snacks at the picnic table, Janan's treehouse is the happy sanctuary he deserves. He can go on exciting adventures right in his backyard. His parents held back tears when they described what this wish meant for them: "I don't even know that I have words for what this has been for Janan and our family." Janan's smile was the biggest it's been in a long time as he ran up and down the stairs, chasing his siblings and having the best time in his new favorite place.

"It is just overwhelming. We have 8 kids with special needs and this allows them to come out and enjoy life...they get to be like other kids."

– Janan's mother

Wish Granter: Fran Garfunkel

Referred by Connie Nixon, his nurse

Wish adopted by Mr. & Mrs. Stan C. Moss





*I wish to be a
mermaid princess*

Haylee, 13
brain tumor

HAYLEE MASTERS HER TAIL

After more than a year battling a brain tumor, *Haylee* experienced her dream of being a mermaid princess. Her wish was inspired by Mako Mermaids, her favorite TV series, which helped her overcome her toughest treatments. The anticipation of being healthy and enjoying the water helped her get through all her difficult surgeries. “I never thought this would come, but here I am,” is what Haylee said as she was in the pool with the biggest smile plastered on her face.

Haylee’s custom-made, 8.5 pound tail was received with astonishment and excitement. Adorned with green and blue scales and shimmering patterns, Haylee’s tail was fit for a mermaid princess. Haylee swam with two mermaids in the Villa Casa Casuarina pool, formerly known as the Versace Mansion. “It was heavy at first, but I think I’ve adjusted,” Haylee said as she waded in the pool. Haylee enjoyed learning how to swim with her regal tail and doing laps with her new friends.

After her swim, Haylee chose beautiful jewels from an underwater treasure chest: an extra special royal moment! What’s Haylee going to remember most about her special day? “I’m going to remember being at the Versace Mansion...having a tail for the first time!”

“I know that she’s full of joy today, so I’m definitely full of joy for her.”
– Haylee’s father

Wish granted in collaboration with Make-A-Wish Illinois





*I wish to go to
the Super Bowl*

Kesh, 11

blood disorder

KESH SCORES A TOUCHDOWN

Battling a blood disorder means a lot of uncomfortable hospital stays and unpleasant treatments. **Kesh** would escape mentally by watching football with his grandfather, and often daydreamed about going to the Super Bowl himself.

When his wish came true, he and his grandfather attended the game at Hard Rock Stadium and it was even better than he anticipated. The excitement of the game and the energy of the crowd was just what he needed. His wish was “an eye opener that anything is possible!” He received lots of swag, participated in the Super Bowl Experience and attended lots of VIP parties and celebrations during his spectacular Super Bowl weekend.

Kesh's mother said, “Everything was perfection, organized and truly exceeded our expectations. It was like a magical dream.”

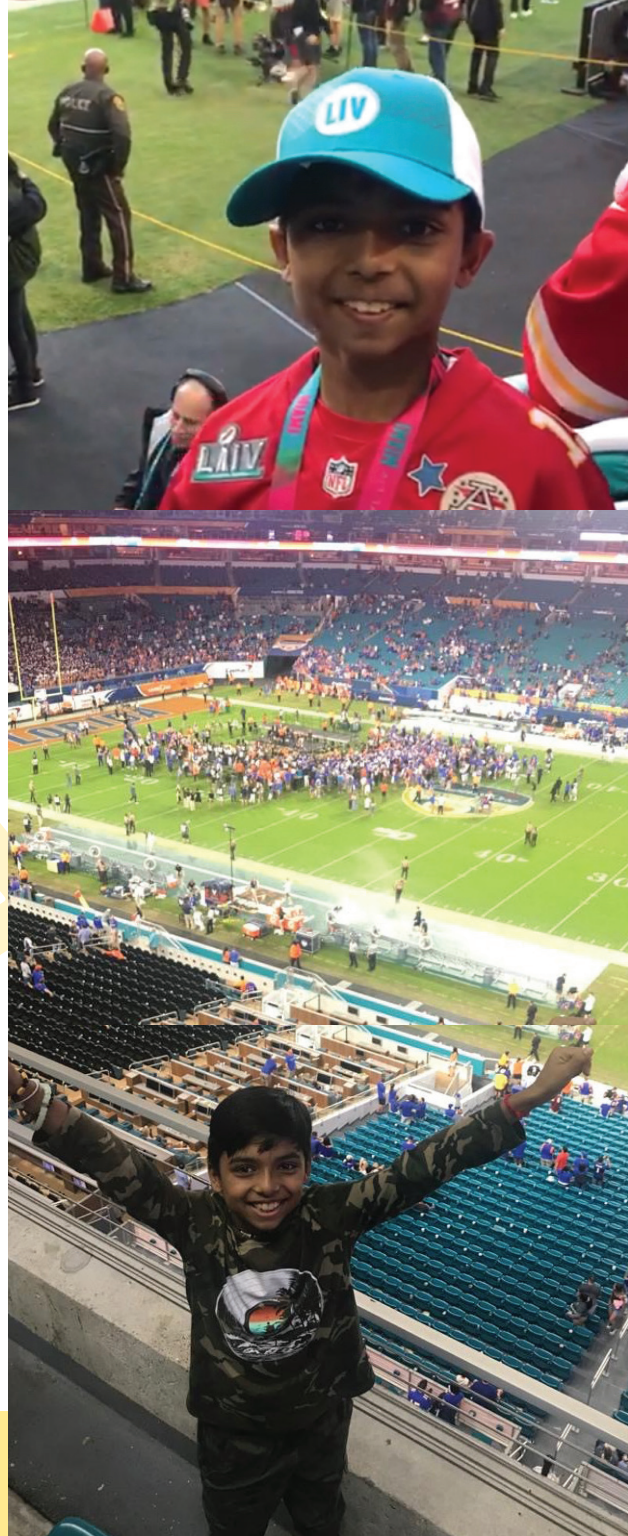
“There is nothing in the world that can top the experiences we had for Keshnavan's wish.”

– Kesh's mother

Wish Granters: Jeff & Enid Weinraub

Referred by Samantha Utter, his child life specialist

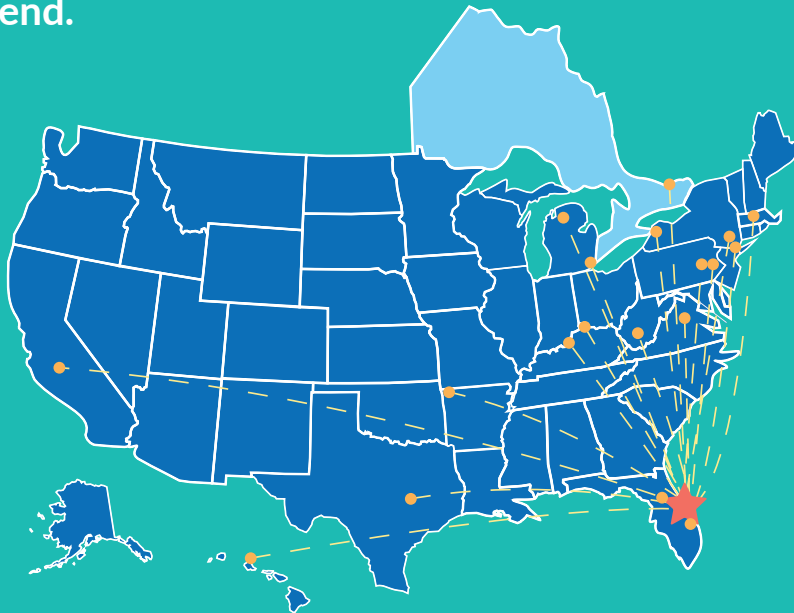
Wish adopted by Drs. Ginger & Roger Medel



19 SUPER BO

Going to the **Super Bowl** is something that many kids (and adults) only get to dream about. In February, that wish came true for **19 wish kids**. Hosted in Miami, the San Francisco 49ers and the Kansas City Chiefs battled it out at Super Bowl LIV. It was the ultimate football adventure for 19 courageous kids battling critical illnesses. They traveled from as far as Canada and Hawaii to witness the big game.

Make-A-Wish Southern Florida worked tirelessly on the logistics of each wish trip, coordinating air travel, hotel accommodations, transportation and a packed schedule of football-centric activities to round out their once-in-a-lifetime weekend.



19 wish kids traveled from as far as Hawaii and Canada for the Super Bowl

WL WISHES!



Supporters

A large, light teal graphic of a person with their arms raised in a celebratory or supportive gesture, positioned in the background of the text.

“

He never complains about anything – his treatments, so many blood draws. He’s missed out on so many things because of his illness. This wish - he didn’t hear the word ‘no’ at all. Anything he wanted to do or to eat all week – it was all about Sebastian and what he wanted.

– *Sebastian’s mother*

*I wish to meet
Imagine Dragons*

Sebastian, 10
cystic fibrosis



“We believe a wish is always life-altering...and sometimes life-saving. It inspires courage to continue the fight. The wish experience restores hope, renews the human spirit and creates memories for a lifetime. Wish giving and granting reflects the humanity of the community. A wish is grace... a gift unexpected.”

– Drs. Ginger & Roger Medel

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Drs. Ginger and Roger Medel support Make-A-Wish Southern Florida in every way, giving of their time, talents and treasure. Dr. Ginger Medel served on our Board of Directors, as well as on our Executive, Mission Delivery, Medical Advisory, and Capital Campaign committees. The Medels underwrite wishes, support our events and endow wishes in perpetuity. With careers in pediatric and neonatal critical care specialties, the Medels understand the fear and anxiety that a family faces when a child is diagnosed with a critical illness. They have educated countless doctors on the impact of a wish, and inspired them to refer their patients.



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Make-A-Wish Southern Florida has adopted a bold, new vision to establish an endowment so that no child's wish ever goes ungranted and to build a Wish House to further enhance an already incredible wish experience for each wish child and family.

We are eternally grateful to the visionary supporters of our Endowment and Capital Campaign. Through their remarkable contributions, these philanthropic individuals and foundations are investing in the future of our great organization.

The Finker-Frenkel Family

Stuart A. Miller

Peter and Tatiana Cancro

Dennis Crowley

The Malnik Family

Drs. Ginger & Roger Medel

The Perez Family

Richard & Robin Weissman and

The Learning Experience

Bob & Alysia Press

Stanley & Gala Cohen

The Looby Foundation

The Harry T. Mangurian, Jr. Foundation

The Batchelor Foundation, Inc.

Bonnie Eletz and The William &

Mildred Lasdon Foundation

Brett Rose & Jeremiah Gutierrez

James K. & Susan Oppenheimer

Anthony R. Abraham Foundation

Ortega Foundation

Anonymous

Greg and Brenda Baty

Gal Bensaadon/Red Door Construction

Dr. Arthur Diskin

Mayte Fernandez

The Mary Alice Fortin Family Foundation

Taylor & Lisa Gang

Brent & Nicollette Hagey

Alan & Janine Mandel

Sadaka Family Charitable Fund

Scherr Family Foundation

Vecchitto Family Charitable Foundation

Norman Wedderburn

Sandy & Joe Gallaher and Courtney

& Jeremy Larkin

Murray H. Goodman

Jorge & Sherri Gutierrez

L. Scott Helms & Jorge Alonso

Josh & Stacey Mandel

Carlos & Angie Valdes

Sheila Cesarano

Jamie Elias

Rick & Jackie Fernandez

Jodi Siravo

CHANGING LIVES, ONE *referral* AT A TIME.

We rely on referrals from caring individuals to help us reach every child with a critical illness in order to grant them a life-changing wish experience. With each referral, we are introduced to a child in our community as we begin a journey together to grant their true, heartfelt wish. We accept referrals from children receiving treatment for a critical illness, parents or legal guardians, and medical professionals such as providers, nurses, social workers or child life specialists.

Make-A-Wish and the child's medical provider work closely together to verify the child's eligibility based on our medical criteria. It is because of their support that we were able to qualify **518** local children for a wish in the 2020 fiscal year.

Magic meets medicine:



518 qualified
referrals in FY 20



68% of qualified
referrals were made by a
medical professional



89% of medical
professionals believe a
wish can positively
influence a child's health



95% of parents say a
wish provides their child
the opportunity to view
life as more than an illness

“As a pediatric hematologist/oncologist for more than 20 years, I have seen Make-A-Wish provide amazing trips, experiences and gifts to more patients than I can count. The organization gives true joy to our patients and their families and there really is no price tag you can put on that.”

***Dr. Peter Shaw, MD
Medical Director of Tampa Services
Johns Hopkins All Children's Cancer & Blood Disorders Institute***





WE *appreciate* OUR MEDICAL PARTNERS

Our medical professionals play a big role in making every wish come true. Wish families are often first introduced to Make-A-Wish by a member of their medical team. This past year has brought our medical community unique personal and professional challenges with the emergence of COVID-19. Despite this, they have continued to prioritize the power of a wish for their patients! We are grateful for each of their referrals and for providing their professional insights to keep wish kids safe and healthy throughout the wish journey.

Joffrey's Coffee and Tea partnered with us this year to send a little joy to our local children's hospital for Healthcare Appreciation Week!

Use **THIS** QR code for a special
THANK YOU message



CHAIRMAN'S CHALLENGE SOCIETY

Members of the Chairman's Challenge Society are generous philanthropists dedicated to making the InterContinental® Miami Make-A-Wish® Ball a success. Led by our Chair Shareef Malnik, these supporters underwrite the cost of the Ball so that more funds can go directly toward making children's wishes come true.

Shareef Malnik & Gabrielle Anwar
Stuart Miller
The Lennar Foundation, Marshall Ames
Richard Polidori
Todd & Kim Glaser
Geert-Jan & Joyce Bakker
Jim & Sue Oppenheimer
Randy & Barbara Ann Frankel Foundation
Braman Family Foundation
Wayne & Cynthia Boich
Eugene & Brooke Frenkel
Dennis Crowley & Maria Hauptert
Ameen & Zainab Killidar
Barry Skolnick
Richard & Susan Finkelstein
Andrew & Tatsiana Ansin
Alan Mruvka, StorageBlue
Felipe Lafratta, AssociatesMD Medical Group
Marko & Shelly Dimitrijevic
Anonymous

“We have been blessed to see not only the joy and impact of a wish as it is granted, but also the lasting and transformational benefits of that experience for our wish families. The process of imagining, designing and planning for a wish improves not only a child’s mental health, but medical outcomes as well. We can’t imagine a more lofty goal than that. Plus, it just feels really good to see a child smile!”

– Steve and Natalie Gillis

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

As a Tampa Bay Advisory Board member since 2013, Steve Gillis and his wife Natalie have been avid supporters, chairing our Wishmaker’s Ball Tampa several times, and generously donating enough to grant 33 wishes. Steve also served as Advisory Board chair in 2019 and is currently our Board Development chair. In addition, the Gillises, along with their company, Transportation Control Systems, have played a vital role in our chapter’s growth in the Tampa Bay region.



CORNERSTONE SOCIETY

Our Cornerstone Society is a giving program where members personally pledge to support wish granting over a 5-year period. The following Cornerstone Society members are truly committed to helping make life-changing wishes come true for kids with critical illnesses.

VISIONARY LEVEL (\$100,000 PLEDGE**)

Dr. Bianca Ferrari
Levitetz Family Foundation

HERO LEVEL (\$50,000 PLEDGE**)

Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Caruso
Dr. Arthur L. Diskin
Ms. Michele Eddy
Mr. Todd P. Linden
Mary and Patrick McClain
Foundation

**Vecchitto Family Charitable
Foundation**

JOY LEVEL (\$25,000 PLEDGE**)

**Brenda Yester Baty and
Greg Baty**
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Castellanos
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Davis
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Demar
Mr. & Mrs. Ben Eisenberg
Mr. & Mrs. Marcus
Fernandez
**Mr. & Mrs. John W.
Fisher III**
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Flegel
The Freund Family
The Gonzalez Family
Foundation
Dr. Angela LaFace &
Mr. Chris LaFace
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Levitats
**Mr. & Mrs. Josh and
Stacey Mandel**
Ms. Theresa Mandell

Pediatric Associates Foundation

Mr. Matthew F. Sacco
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Salsburg
Mr. & Mrs. Michael &
Alison Simon
St. George Group Inc.
Mr. & Mrs. James Vogt
Ms. Emily Ziegler

STRENGTH LEVEL (\$10,000 PLEDGE**)

Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Aibel
Anonymous in Memory of
the Hamilton Family
Dr. & Mrs. Cesar Barada
Jennifer Barnes &
Jack K. Barnes

Boyers Law Group
Mr. Douglas Brehm
Ms. Sheila M. Cesarano
Mr. & Mrs. Richard K.
Childress
Alec Dilanchian
**Michelle & Jeffrey
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Ms. Amy L. Federman
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Ms. Julie Katz
Mr. & Mrs. Richard &
Pauline Kelly and Family
Mr. & Mrs. David Kingsley
**Mr. & Mrs. Camilo
Miguel, Jr.**

Mr. Jeffrey Roberti
Ms. Terrie Rosenthal
Capt. Julie Schumacher,
USMC & Mr. Casey
Schumacher - in memory
of Emily Sutker
Mr. Norm Wedderburn
Mr. Frank Zacherl

HOPE LEVEL (\$5,000 PLEDGE**)

Mr. & Mrs. Alex Adams
Mr. Joseph Akar
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Andrews
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph &
Janine Balkin
Mr. & Mrs. Walter O. Byrd
Mr. Robby Elias
Tim & Lois Farrell
Mr. Joseph M. Ferrio
Mr & Mrs. Bryan Fetherston
Mr. & Mrs. Yale Fishman
**Mr. & Mrs. Ruth & Randy
Friedlander**
Mr. & Mrs. Rick Gallo
Ms. Barclay Gang
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Godsey
Vita & Dan Goldberg
Mrs. Danielle Gonzalez-
Rubinstein
**Ms. Jackie Gonzalez &
Mr. Greg Anderson**
Ms. Lisa Gruenloh - in
honor of Kennedy Burger
Mr. & Mrs. Mason &
Beth Jackson
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Jacobs
Mr & Mrs. Frank Jacobs

Michael & Terri Klauber
**Mr. & Mrs. Michel
Koopman**
Ms. Jeanette M. Lombardi
in loving memory of Alan
G. Martinez
Ms. Tammy E. Lynn
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Mandala
Mrs. Kathy K. Marini - in
memory of Dora Kollar
Ms. Taylor Marini
Mr. Michael W. Marrero
CJ & Lindsey Mintrone
Mokarren Properties, LLC
Ms. Christina Murray
Ms. Mala Murthy
Mr. & Mrs. Augusto Ocana
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Ordet
Mr. Nicholas Owens
Mr. Daniel Pacheco
Mr. & Mrs. Evan Rees
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Rux
Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Sard
Storch Family Fund
The Parker Company
Dr. Deborah White &
Mr. David Pearlman
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Wolf
Ms. Dorlene Zaslow
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Zipay

*The names listed in bold indicate
members who have committed to
support Make-A-Wish through our
Cornerstone Society more than
once and represent multi-year
commitments.*

***pledges are fulfilled over 5 years*

MAKE-A-WISH® CHAMPIONS

Make-A-Wish Champions are successful business professionals who live out the Make-A-Wish mission while enhancing their professional network. The following Make-A-Wish Champions have each committed to a five-year pledge and are active participants in events and initiatives that help make wishes come true.

Mr. Winston Wood
Co-Chair

Mr. Harris Mandler
Co-Chair

Mr. Hani Abisaid
Mr. Alberto Alvarado
Mr. Alex Arguelles
Mr. Benjamin Arndt
Mr. C. Brandon Arzabe
Mr. Juan Carlos Bellon
Mr. Gal Bensaadon
Mr. Maxx A. Carney
Mr. Herman Castro
Mr. Chris Cataldi
Mr. & Mrs. Reinaldo and
Anna Cruz-Morales
Mr. Jorge Delgado
Mr. & Mrs. Alex &
Jacky Denault
Ms. Christie Doura
Mr. Derick Duchodni
Mr. Zachary Elliott
Mr. Richard Fausset
Mr. Carlos Ferreyros &
Mrs. Carla Cacero

Ms. Vanessa Florez
Mr. & Mrs. Derrick and
Omaira Garcia
Mr. Carlos Gaviria
Mr. Harris Gilbert &
Mr. Andrew Smallman
Mr. David Gorson
Mr. Spencer Hastings
Dr. Moises Issa
Mr. Joseph Jackson, CPA
Ms. Shalina Jaffer
Mr. Charlo Jenkins
Mr. Wesley Kean
Mr. Marc Kleiner
Mr. & Mrs. Lucas and
Carrie Klimczak-Folse
Mr. Eliot LaBreche
Mr. John Lenahan
Mr. & Dr. Matthew and
Jennifer Mazzearella
Mr. James Neira
Mr. Ryan Powers
Ms. Lisa Rectenwald
Mr. Steven J. Rodriguez
Mr. Jacob Roffman
Mr. Adam Rothstein
Mr. Josh Rudolph

Mr. Steven Schermer
Mr. Samuel Schwartz
Mr. James Sikes Jr.
Mr. Marc Silverstone &
Mr. Voytek Faber
Ms. Rachel Simowitz
Mr. Derek Suarez
Mr. Sean Tolkin
Mr. Osvaldo Torres
Ms. Stephanie Turk
Mr. Broderick Ureel
Ms. Jessica L. Villagrana
Mr. Joshua Weisenfeld
Mr. Jesse Wright
Mr. Brian P. Yates
Mr. & Mrs. Jose and
Melissa Yunen
Mr. & Mrs. Tom and
Jennifer Zur

WISH SOCIETY

The Wish Society (formerly known as the Women's Initiative Group) is an empowering community of proactive female leaders who share their time, talent and treasures in support of Make-A-Wish Southern Florida. The following women are passionately dedicated to advancing our mission to grant the wish of every eligible child.

Lisa Balkin

Co-Chair

Erin Briede

Co-Chair

Jolie Balido

Veronica Beach

Renee Lopez-Cantera

Leslie Carey

Aliette Carolan

Sheila Cesarano

Vanessa Fioravante-Cuomo

Vivianne Del Rio

Melyza Eatmon

Martha Valdes-Fauli

Amy Federman

Carrie Klimzak-Folse

Patricia Fuller

Danielle Garno

Christina Garriga

Mariana Gaxiola

Mrs. Danielle Gonzalez-

Rubinstein

Marty Goodwin

Monique Graciotti

Maria Hauptert

Danielle Hoffman

Lacey Hofmeyer

Reagan Hoy

Elizabeth Jackson

Terry Jonas

Jennifer Judice

Elaine Keyser

Cynthia Lau

Patty Liebowitz

Marianne Luis

Isabela Marquez

Patricia Mendoza

Peri Miarecki

Nina Miguel

Bronwyn Miller

Jen Montoya

Maria Mora

Joelle Oiknine

Olga Padillo

Jennifer Price

Valerie Quemada

Pamela Segal Rhodes

Mary Rogers

Dulce Stephens

Gaby Tassi

Roxana Tejeda

Stephanie Turk

Tina van der Ven

Suzy Buckley-Woodward

Holly Wright

Beatrice Zapata

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

“Make-A-Wish is inspirational, intentional and uplifting. We give to Make-A-Wish because we have first-hand experience with the positive impact a wish makes. The most rewarding part is witnessing the moment a wish is granted. The joy in the eyes of a child is priceless and the happiness that radiates throughout the entire family is indescribable.”

– Kinsley’s parents

At just 7 years old, Kinsley is a warrior who fought cancer and won! When Kinsley’s wish came true in 2018, the experience impacted her so greatly that she founded a non-profit, Kinsley’s Cookie Cart, to raise money for pediatric cancer and granting wishes. She set her goal to grant the wishes of six brave kids starting with Andrew, a 4-year-old battling a brain tumor that wished to have a mini goldendoodle puppy. Kinsley celebrated alongside Andrew on his wish day as he met his best furry friend, Biscuit.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Coming from a multitude of professional backgrounds and diverse in geographic representation, our Board of Directors is a driving force in our mission to grant the wish of every eligible child in our territory. Members are elected to three-year terms and assist in all phases of Make-A-Wish Southern Florida's efforts. From financial planning to wish granting, our Board of Directors provides the leadership and guidance that propels us forward.

Richard Weissman

Chairman of the Board
The Learning Experience

Shareef Malnik

Chairman of the Board Emeritus
The Forge

Greg Baty

Vice Chair
Community Volunteer

Jodi Siravo

Treasurer
Community Volunteer

Jennifer Barnes

University of St. Augustine for
Health Sciences

Caitlin Beck Stella, MPH

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

Gal Bensaadon

Red Door Construction

Tatiana Cancro

Jersey Mike's

Dennis Crowley

Doctor's Choice Pharmacy

Marko Dimitrijevic

Volta Global

Arthur L. Diskin

Quality Medical Risk Management,
Inc.

Brian Exelbert

Morgan Stanley

Marcus Fernandez

Kinney, Fernandez and Boire, PA

Mayte Fernandez

Momentum Consulting Corporation

Eugene Frenkel

Legacy Wealth Group

Taylor Gang

Evensky & Katz/Foldes Financial
Wealth Management

Todd Glaser

Entrepreneur/Developer

Mrs. Danielle Gonzalez-Rubinstein

Greenberg Traurig

Sherri Gutierrez

Arquitectonica

L. Scott Helms

Helms Development

Kristin Johnson Karp

Hotwire Communications

Terry Jove

Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits

Lizabeth Kane-Hanan

Marriott Vacations Worldwide

Bruce Kaye

Community Volunteer

Ameen Killidar

Malibu Holdings and Investments

Drew Mandala

Stillwater Structured Finance LLC

Mary McClain

Mary & Patrick McClain Foundation

Joe Perez

Zerep Holdings

Dylan Sanders

Fidelity Private Wealth Management

Barry Skolnick

BLS Asset Management Corporation

Angela Valdes

JBG SMITH

Laura Zebersky

Jazwares

TAMPA BAY ADVISORY BOARD

Members of our Tampa Bay Advisory Board are committed to sharing their time and talents to advance our wish-granting mission in the Tampa Bay community. The following Tampa Bay Advisory Board members are determined to help us reach the vision of granting the wish of every eligible child.

John Flinn

Chair

RIPA & Associates

Gary Godsey

Vice Chair

JLL

Frank Musolino Jr.

Power Design

Ted Abrams

Joffrey's Coffee & Tea

Greg Grabau

Monin Gourmet Flavorings

Anthony Pedicini

Strategic Image Management

Kerry Allgire

Tech Data

C.J. Mintrone

PNC Bank

Chris Rux

Cherry Bekaert

Marcus Fernandez

Kinney, Fernandez & Boire, PA

Christina Murray

Tom James

Peter Shaw, M.D.

Johns Hopkins All

Children's Cancer &

Blood Disorders Institute

Steven Gillis

Immediate Past Chair

Transportation Control

Systems, Inc.

Mala Murthy

United Healthcare

Matt Zipay

Northern Trust

SUNCOAST ADVISORY BOARD

Members of our Suncoast Advisory Board bring exceptional knowledge and skills to help further our wish-granting mission in the Sarasota, Manatee, Charlotte, DeSoto and Hardee counties. The following Suncoast Advisory Board members have committed themselves to granting life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses.

Nick Owens

POP Yachts & POP RVs

Luke Nicholas

Allegiant Private Advisors

Lisa Olan

Sarasota Memorial Hospital

Elena Reuter

Community Volunteer

Sherra Fritz

WWSB ABC 7

Renee Phinney

Immediate Past Chair

Palm Printing

Terri Klauber

Michael's on East

Phil Mancini

Michael's On East

“Make-A-Wish is a wonderful organization that gives children a prescription for hope. It is a perfect fit with our Foundation, allowing sick kids the chance to dream big and look forward to the day their wish is granted. A wish is like the best birthday party ever, with surprises, fun, getting the exact gift you wanted and a day all about you, the wish kid.”

– The Clark Family Foundation

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

David “Dave” M. Clark, the family’s patriarch, started the Clark Family Foundation to support charitable organizations dedicated to the health and well-being of children. Since 2017, the Clark Family Foundation has been a committed supporter of Make-A-Wish, adopting 46 life-changing wishes. The Clark Family Foundation was recently awarded the Magic Wand Award for the tremendous impact they have had on our organization.



SOUTHWEST FLORIDA ADVISORY BOARD

Members of our Southwest Florida Advisory Board offer their leadership and professional expertise to help further our wish-granting mission. The following members of the Lee/Collier community have devoted themselves to making every eligible child's wish come true.

Erin Dever

Chair

Collier County Sheriff's Office

Susan Battaglia

Norman Love Confections

Pam Blackwell

First Horizon Foundation

Lianne Caruso

Community Volunteer

Michele Eddy

Community Volunteer

Theresa Fletcher

Hotwire Communications

Amy Frith

Golisano Children's Hospital of
Southwest Florida

Rick Gallo

CloseWatch Services & Rick
Gallo Auctioneer

Jenny Gezella

Naples Princess

Mary McClain

Mary & Patrick McClain
Foundation

James Oliver, Esq.

James M. Oliver, P.A.

Brandy Ollie

Go Platinum Transportation

Jason Rundorff

Naples Global Advisors, LLC

Lori Teague

Community Volunteer

Denise Thoman

Allstate

MEDICAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meet the members of our Medical Advisory Council who bring their expertise to our mission and help us to grant the wish of every eligible child.

Dr. Joanna Davis

*Pediatric Hematology/ Oncology
University of Miami
Health System*

Dr. J. Blaine John

*Pediatric Cardiology
St. Joseph's Children's Hospital/
Pediatric Cardiology Associates*

Dr. Ronald A. Ligon

*Pediatric Cardiology
Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital*

Dr. Eric Eason

*Pediatric Cardiology
Golisano Children's Hospital*

Mrs. Michele King

*Director of Child Advocacy
Programs
Golisano Children's Hospital*

Dr. Ginger Medel

Honorary Medical Advisor

Dr. Maggie Fader

*Pediatric Hematology/ Oncology
Nicklaus Children's Hospital/
Kidz Medical Group*

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA YOUTH LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Youth Leadership Committee – Southeast Florida region is Make-A-Wish Southern Florida's program that shows students the importance of philanthropy and the impact youth can make in their own communities. This program is comprised of 8th–12th grade students who are enrolled in Broward and Miami-Dade county schools. The entire committee meets monthly to plan and execute fundraising events while the Executive board meets twice a month and facilitates the group. Each meeting has a "Wishing for Success" component which helps the students develop additional skills and add value to their future careers such as leadership, professionalism and personal development.

Morgan Rosen

President

Rebecca Harkins

Vice President

Leah Schneider

Treasurer

Dylan Minevich

Marketing Chair

Madeline Zeta

Secretary

Sofia Nicastro

At-Large Member

Hannah Badia

Cooper Bakos

Maxwell Bergman

Griffin Byrd

Ariana Clarke

Ryan Clarke

Alex Diamant

Hannah Elbahri

Angelina Godinez

Jack Gonzalez

Aditya Kapadia

Hannah Kelly

Hanya Mukati

Nabeel Mukati

Paisley Vereas

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA YOUTH LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Members of the Youth Leadership Committee – Southwest Florida region include 7th – 12th grade students who are enrolled in Collier and Lee county schools. These bright students help make their peers' wishes come true as they come together in monthly meetings guided by their elected executive board to plan awareness and fundraising events to support our mission. Many community partners at the meetings teach the students invaluable skills including leadership, interviewing and networking, which will help them in their academic and professional futures.

Addie Jenkinson

President

Payton Ziegler

Vice President

Ava Aloia

Ben Axline

Chris Axline

Carson Batcheller

Kirchgessner

Alyssa Bernhardt

Justin Braverman

Angelina Crawford

Frantz

Anthony D'Aquino

Marissa Diaz

Hailey Gervais

Madisyn Goodman

Sara Goodwich

Quinn Hepler

Jonathan Jordan

Caroline Juda

Grant Juda

Lauren Juda

Kate Kramer

Lianna Larson

Thamar Lundy

Lauren Major

Victoria Mena

Leanne Millikan

Gracie Mitchell

Makenzie Mumaw

Trisha Phan

Bailey Reum

Olivia Rose

Grace Scharlacken

Delaney Shovlin

Berklie Simmering

Madison Young

Samantha Zimmer

BENEFACTOR SOCIETY

The Make-A-Wish Benefactor Society is dedicated to making our largest fundraising events a success. These supporters underwrite the costs of events so that more funds can directly go toward making children's wishes come true. The intent of the Benefactor Society is to enlist business, civic, and philanthropic leaders who will pledge a designated amount for the next 5 years. This gift allows our chapter to change the lives of even more children and families in our local community.

Wishmaker's Ball Naples and Walk For Wishes South West Florida Benefactor

Mary and Patrick McClain Foundation

Mac & Cheese Challenge Benefactor

Metro Glass & Mirror

MAKE-A-WISH STAFF

Make-A-Wish provides a spark of hope that can be a game-changer in the life of a child with a critical illness. This belief guides and inspires every person who joins our staff to grant wishes that change the lives of the kids we serve.

Norman Wedderburn
President/CEO

Richard Kelly
Chief Operating Officer

Karen Mullins
Vice-President of
Mission Delivery

Beth Jackson
Chief Financial Officer

Lisa Andrews
Regional Director
Tampa Bay

Julie Robbins
Director of Business
Intelligence & Information
Technology

Taylor Marini
Regional Director
Suncoast

Bich-ly Ludwig
Director of Philanthropy

Mary Holt
Special Events Manager

Melanie Holley
Volunteer Program
Manager

Marissa Shea
Program Manager

Kristen Bladen
Donor Services Manager
Tampa Bay

Kelsey Makowski
Development & Events
Manager-Tampa Bay

Rachel Simowitz
Manager of Corporate
Relations

Daniela Malo
Associate Director of
Philanthropy

Denae Ankele
Senior Brand
Advancement Coordinator

Patty Escobar
Senior Development
Coordinator

Jessy Balbuena
Senior Wish Coordinator

Marina Deluca
Senior Creative Designer

Jackie Perl
Senior Special Events
Coordinator

Jessica Rivera
Senior Community
Development Coordinator

Elizabeth Erra
Senior Wish Coordinator

Kimberly Tabor
Wish Coordinator

Patty Abreu
Medical & Community
Outreach Coordinator

Megan McGee
Volunteer Coordinator

Katia Rodrigues
Wish Coordinator

Stephanie Boydston
Development Coordinator

Martha Carmen
Wish Coordinator

Sydni Huguet
Wish Assist Coordinator

Denise Rackauskas
Wish Coordinator

Michelle Roonoe
Wish Coordinator

Taylor Norman
Development & Events
Coordinator
Southwest Florida

Alex Lieberman
Wish Coordinator

Kika Madden
Digital & Social Media
Coordinator

Jade Ferrada
Accounting Coordinator

Tara Currier
Special Events
Coordinator

Tessa Dvorak
Medical and Community
Outreach Coordinator
West Coast

Dominique Mobley
Community Engagement
Coordinator
Southwest Florida

MAKE-A-WISH SOUTHERN FLORIDA'S *New Home*

In 2020, we purchased land and unveiled renderings for the chapter's proposed headquarters in Miami's Overtown neighborhood.

The 30,000-square-foot building will rise five stories, including 15,000 square feet of office space with the remaining space to serve as an innovative Wish House inclusive of emerging technology to provide children with an inspirational, fun and safe destination to experience wishes. The building was designed by award-winning firm Arquitectonica.

The Finker-Frenkel Wish House will extend the impact of the wish experience, establish our organization's permanence in the community and advance new revenue opportunities.

“Along with our partners, we’re excited to finally bring the vision of our Miami facility to life. From celebratory to business event spaces, the hope is that our new headquarters will provide the community and wish recipients a creative haven within Southern Florida.”

*– Shareef Malnik, Chairman of the Capital
and Endowment Campaign*





Facts & Figures

“

She finished treatment six months ago, and she's had clear scans since then. So to come here and to have this and have people love her and show that love towards her the way we love her is really remarkable and incredible.

– *Kinsley's mother*

*I wish to have a Moana
themed beach day*

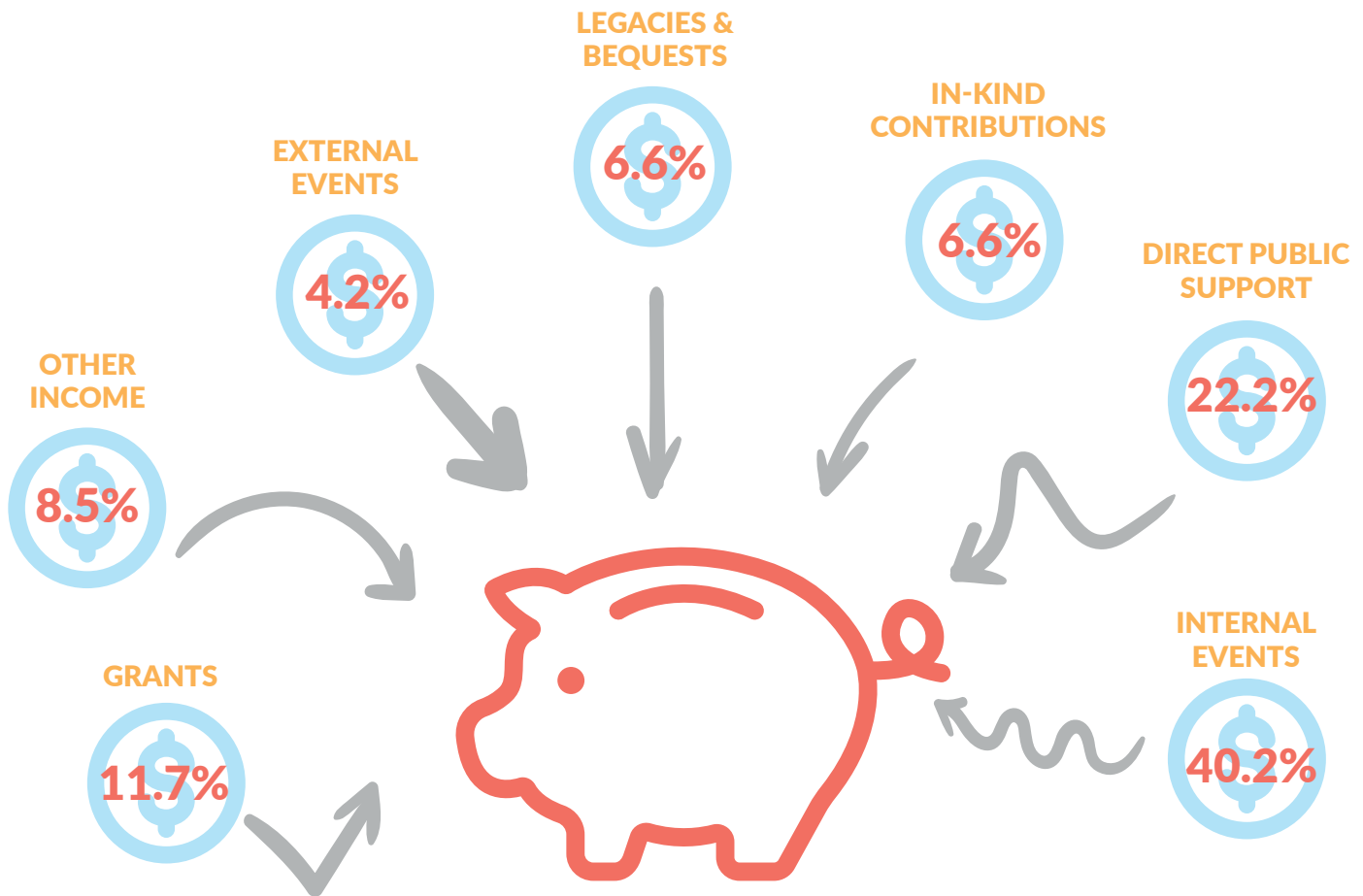
Kinsley, 5
cancer



FINANCIALS

Corporate sponsorships, special events, foundation grants and individual contributions make it possible for Make-A-Wish Southern Florida to deliver our wish-granting mission. All funds raised locally are used to grant the wishes of local children with critical illnesses. To provide our wish families with a stress-free experience, wish expenses including travel, hotel, meals, passes for attractions and spending money, are fully covered.

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM...



STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION August 31, 2020 and 2019	2020	2019
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$12,871,878	\$7,632,534
Investments	11,055,158	9,752,670
Contributions Receivable	11,507,828	11,663,103
Property and Equipment, Net	226,756	152,766
Other Assets	1,673,225	1,327,973
Total Assets	\$37,334,845	\$30,529,046
Current Liabilities	\$1,051,470	\$1,288,002
Net Assets	36,283,375	29,241,044
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$37,334,845	\$30,529,046

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES Years Ended August 31, 2020 and 2019	2020	2019
Operating Revenue		
Public Support	\$10,350,848	\$11,960,255
Investment & Other Income	932,473	264,398
Total Operating Revenues	11,283,321	12,224,653
Operating Expenses		
Program Services	4,769,508	9,100,035
Fundraising	2,204,752	2,419,264
Management & General	841,578	556,694
Total Operating Expenses	7,815,838	12,075,993
Non-Operating Revenue	3,574,848	1,227,581
Change in Accounting Policy	--	3,100,612
Change in Net Assets	\$7,042,331	\$4,476,853

Audited financial statements are available upon request.



Since 1983, our chapter has granted more than **12,000 wishes.**



MAKE-A-WISH® SOUTHERN FLORIDA IS A
4-STAR CHARITY

according to Charity Navigator, the nation's largest and most utilized evaluator of non-profit organizations.

This top rating confirms our strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency.

Did You Know?



Our organization is proud to be a **GuideStar Platinum Nonprofit Profile participant.**

Platinum lets us show quantitative metrics on the progress we're making toward our mission.

Check out our Nonprofit Profile:



There is a **\$0 cost** to a wish family to experience a wish come true.

*I wish to visit the set of
"Jurassic World 3"
(on hold)*

Maverick, 6
leukemia



Wishes are *essential* to a child's
medical journey.



Thank you to all of our donors for helping make wishes
come true. For a complete list of our donors, visit
makeawishdonors.org



Make-A-Wish®
SOUTHERN FLORIDA



sfla.wish.org
[@makeawishsfla](https://www.instagram.com/makeawishsfla)

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