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I wish to have a bunny barn Harper, 8 nervous system disorder



On September 19, a group of Make-A-Wish® volunteers in north Idaho put the finishing touches on eight-year-old Harper's bunny barn.

During the course of the weekend, over twenty people came out to lend their time and talents to the construction of Harper's wish barn. And now it is built, complete with pink walls, a giant beanbag chair, its own fence and even some custom landscaping for good measure.

"I cried. My heart was so happy," Harper said.

Harper's struggle with her nervous system disorder is an ongoing battle. She has to use a BiPAP machine when she sleeps and has a pacemaker to help regulate her heartbeat. Harper wished for her own place where she could just get away from it all and be a kid again.

Her family managed to keep the crew and construction secret, revealing the structure, fully finished, to Harper who could only gasp in amazement. Carrots, Harper's pet rabbit, also appeared grateful for the new luxury accommodations.

"Harper is a very special child - she is kind, loving and caring," Chelsea, Harper's mom, said. "Even with everything that she's dealt with, she always has a smile on her face."

Help Us Make Wishes Like Harper's Come True

## **WISHES ARE WAITING**



I wish to have a shopping spree Beniamin. 10

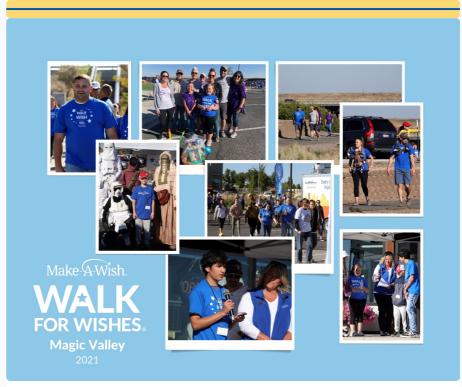
leukemia

When the representative from Make-A-Wish Idaho contacted Benjamin, the first thing he said he wanted to wish for was "twenty bags of Funyuns." Benjamin can seem quiet and shy at first glance, but once he warms up to a person, Benjamin can't hide his great sense of humor. He's silly and loves to tell a joke. He's a big fan of the Three Stooges.

His sense of humor has helped him deal with his illness. "[As a result of his medical journey, I've learned how] amazing, brave, and strong he is! He pushes through some of the hardest things even though it's super scary to him. He doesn't allow his condition to stop him," said Benjamin's mom, Terah.

Benjamin wished for a virtual shopping spree. With his shopping spree, he can get several crates of Funyuns if he really wants them, but Benjamin will likely choose to get a PS5 and a brand-new set up for his bedroom.

Right now, his bed takes up most of his room which doesn't leave a lot of space for gaming or anything, really. With his shopping spree wish, he'd purchase a loft bed and an entertainment center, so he can have his own place to play games and watch his favorite slapstick comedies.



The Walk for Wishes Magic Valley was a huge success! Thank you to everyone who donated, walked or participated in other ways. This year, we had fiftyfive registered walkers and raised over forty thousand dollars which will help us grant six lifechanging wishes.

Thanks to our presenting sponsor Plant Therapy as well as our other sponsors: The Get Shook Team, Coldwell Banker of Twin Falls, TruLeap Technologies, Alliance and Title Escrow of Twin Falls, First Federal and Ridley's Family Markets.



The Great Polar Bear Challenge is an annual event benefitting Make-A-Wish Idaho held at Lucky Peak Reservoir and Spring Shores Marina. For the past eighteen years, hundreds of people come out to brave the chilly weather year after year to raise funds for children in Idaho with critical illnesses. Come take the plunge with us January 1, 2022.

Bravely Save the Date



Serving Up Wishes, our annual gala event, is tonight! And you can still join in on the fun by watching the simulcast presentation from the comfort of your own home.

Tune into <u>Make-A-Wish Idaho's Facebook page</u> at 6:30 p.m. Mark Johnson and Zack Krone will host the funfilled, warm-hearted program. Additionally, the Serving Up Wishes Auction will have some one-ofkind items that you don't want to miss.

If you're interested in bidding on the auction items while watching the program, we suggest watching it on one device then using another device like an iPad or phone to bid. Please note the there may be a 10-20 second delay from when the auctioneer says SOLD.

Be a part of our annual Serving Up Wishes Fund-A-Wish campaign. You can <u>give a gift on the auction</u> <u>site</u> or on our website <u>idaho.wish.org.</u>

Join the Simulcast



Make-A-Wish Idaho is putting together its first-ever alumni program called our "Wish Community" to celebrate 35 years of past wishes as well as future wishes.

The mission of this program is to provide lasting connection and support for children and families who have had wishes granted by Make-A-Wish Idaho. Members will have a place for sharing stories as well as a platform for interaction and connection.

If you are a wish family member who would like to join our wish community, please visit our <u>Facebook group</u> or email Communication and Development Coordinator Josh Peterson at <u>jpeterson@idaho.wish.org.</u>

## If Only We Had Known



Make-A-Wish Idaho recently received a surprise bequest from the estate of a woman we had never thanked - a gracious and generous person who believed in the impact of each wish that we grant. We appreciate the gift immensely. This beautiful legacy will help us grant the wishes of local children with critical illnesses.

But we feel sad because we never had the opportunity to express our gratitude for her kindness. We were unable to let her know how much her gift would mean. If we had only known, we could have said, "Thank you."

Have you named Make-A-Wish Idaho in your estate plans? If so, please let us know. We would like to thank you! To speak to someone about your legacy giving or to learn more, please contact Janie Best at 208-297-6822 or jbest@idaho.wish.org for a confidential conversation.

To find out more, please visit https://wish.org/idaho/planned-giving



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