

Make-A-Wish®

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WISHES GRANTED



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Happy and Comfortable



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*I wish to have
an online shopping spree*

Declan, 9
genetic disorder



Declan is a joyful, easygoing kid. Due to his condition, he is unable to walk and only has a few words at his disposal, but he loves having people around and getting attention from them. When he's in a crowd, he says or signs hi to as many people as he can. When he meets new folks, he does his best to communicate, possibly through hugs, a little chatting, or smiles. Declan loves going to church because that's where he gets to see his friends. He also savors upbeat music and watching movies in bed.

Declan and his family recently moved into a brand-new house, and Declan needed some things so he could be "happy and comfortable" there. Declan wished for an online shopping spree in order to make his new house a home.

Some of the items that Declan chose were a tablet with a kid-friendly case, an Atlanta Falcons hoodie and game jersey, and a fleece X-Men throw blanket.

Declan's wish was granted around Halloween, so he celebrated with his family at his new house with balloons, a big "Wish Granted" sign, and some extra-special gifts. He wore his Spider-Man costume for the event, of course!

Help Us Grant Wishes Like Declan's

A Hot Springs at Home



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*I wish to have
a hot tub*

Ayden, 6
cancer

Ayden loves firefighters. He dressed up as a firefighter for the last three Halloweens. You might ask, what do firefighters have to do with hot tubs? Well, we're getting around to that.

During the pandemic, Ayden and his family began making trips to the Idaho Hot Springs to relax amidst all the craziness of the world and medical treatments. Dips in the springs quickly became Ayden's favorite activity. He wished for a hot tub, so he could have his own "hot springs" at home. The hot tub was installed in secret, and the team at Make-A-Wish® Idaho asked the Boise Fire Department if they'd give Ayden a big surprise.

When a trio of firemen showed up at Ayden's door and told him that his wish had been granted, Ayden was floored. He followed the firemen around to the side of the house and saw his brand-new hot tub for the first time. He was so excited!

He spent the rest of his wish day, playing with his firefighter pals, honking the horn on the fire truck and using an honest-to-goodness fire hose. After all the fun with the firefighters was over, Ayden and his brother relaxed in their hot springs at home.

Help Us Grant Wishes Like Ayden's



As you plan your year-end charitable giving, we hope that you will consider investing in life-changing wishes for children in Idaho with critical illnesses. There are so many ways to give, and all gifts will ensure that no child has to wait to have their

heartfelt wish.

1. Make an outright gift, which is 100% deductible per IRS guidelines.
2. Donate your IRA RMD to Make-A-Wish Idaho, which can avoid the tax implications.
3. Appreciated stocks or other investments? Donating these securities to charity may avoid capital gains.
4. Make a planned gift to Make-A-Wish Idaho by naming us in your will, as a beneficiary to insurance policies and retirement accounts.

Your year-end gift will provide hope, strength and joy for children and families across the state of Idaho. For more information, please call Janie Best at 208.297.6822 or jb主@idaho.wish.org. Happy holidays to you all! Tax ID #82-0408150.

Please consult your tax advisor to determine whether your donation is tax deductible in whole or in part. This communication does not constitute legal or tax advice.



Make-A-Wish Idaho will host its 19th annual Great Polar Bear Challenge fundraiser on January 1, 2022 at Lucky Peak Reservoir at 11 a.m. Registration begins at 10 a.m. The event will be held in person but will follow all state and local pandemic-related guidelines at that time.

During the Great Polar Bear Challenge hundreds of hardy Idahoans will brave the chilly, January weather and subject their mortal bodies to the freezing reservoir waters to raise money to grant wishes to local children with critical illnesses. Larry Gebert of KTVB will emcee for the 19th year in a row.

The Great Polar Bear Challenge is expected to have a turnout of about 250 water-bound participants. Hot coffee and fresh donuts will be available on site, and the top fundraiser will receive a Great Polar Bear Challenge-branded robe.

All proceeds from the fundraiser will go to grant wishes to Idaho children with critical illnesses. Right now, there are over 145 Idaho kids still waiting on their wishes. The pandemic has slowed some aspects of wish granting but Make-A-Wish Idaho has granted 76 wishes during their last fiscal year and continues to grant wishes safely and efficiently.

[Register to Plunge](#)



{% if (contact.LASTNAME == "") %}

This holiday season, the warmth that so many of us associate with the holidays will be lost for a child who is isolated and vulnerable. Every child deserves a childhood full of joyful holiday experiences with their families. By granting a child's wish, you'll spark joy that will rejuvenate and help them cope with the stress of fighting a critical illness, and you'll unite families and create hope for brighter days ahead.

Celebrate the holiday season with your family by raising funds to help wish families. Together, let's bring joy back into a family's life so they can look forward to tomorrow. Every dollar raised matters.

It's easy to raise money with the person-to-person fundraising app. You can raise money on your social media page or by emailing your pals. It's never been more fun.

Click [SIGN UP](#) to start a family fundraising page and support local families waiting for a wish.

{% endif %}

[Sign Up for Families for Wishes](#)



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. We already have 50 members in the Wish Community, and we're growing rapidly.

If you are a wish family member who would like to join our wish community, please visit our [Facebook group](#) or email Communication and Development Coordinator Josh Peterson at jpeterson@idaho.wish.org.

You can help the Wish Community raise money to grant a wish by donating to the Wish Community Families For Wishes team page.

Help Us Grant A Wish



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Believe

WRITE A LETTER NOW



From Monday, Nov. 1 through Dec. 24, for every letter sent to Santa [online](#) or dropped off in Macy's stores, Macy's will donate \$1 to Make-A-Wish America, up to one million dollars, to help children fighting critical illnesses.

This year, Macy's offers even more ways for customers to give back with an in-store round-up campaign. From Monday, Nov. 1 through Tuesday, Nov. 19, customers can round-up their in-store purchases to the nearest dollar amount and donate the change (up to \$0.99) to benefit Make-A-Wish. Additionally, throughout the campaign, customers can donate online when shopping at macys.com.

Believe is based on the New York Sun's famous "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus" editorial. Macy's invites believers of all ages to write letters [online](#) or to drop off letters to Santa at Macy's in special red letterboxes. For each letter received, Macy's will donate \$1 to Make-A-Wish, up to \$1 million. During National Believe Week (11/28-12/4), Macy's doubles their donation, giving \$2 per letter, up to an additional \$1 million. This brings the total donation goal to \$2 million for the Believe campaign.

Make-A-Wish is a national beneficiary for Macy's annual Believe campaign, which can raise up to \$2M through their letter writing campaign and over \$1M through their in-store round up campaign, product sales and online donations during the holiday season. Macy's also helps to enhance wishes throughout the year by offering makeovers, personal shoppers, and other unique in-store experiences. In addition, Macy's raised \$5M+ in FY20 and over \$137 million since 2003. Macy's has been the largest cash sponsor for Make-A-Wish America for the past decade.

Write A Letter

GIVING TUESDAY

NOVEMBER 30



Right now, there are over 145 Idaho kids with critical illnesses waiting on their wishes. Wishes provide hope and joy during a stressful and isolating time. It's not just a nice thing to do for a sick child. Wishes have powerful real-world effects.

Studies find that children who receive wishes have fewer medical expenses, make fewer unplanned hospital visits and have lower rates of anxiety and depression. Most of the children who receive a wish go on to live healthy, happy lives because a wish is not a last wish. It's a lasting one.

Please consider Make-A-Wish Idaho on Giving Tuesday, November 30, 2021.

New
Director of
Development



Helene
Peterson

Helene Peterson has been promoted to Director of Development! Helene previously served as our Special Events Manager. In her new role, Helene will be working with existing and new donors who choose to invest in wishes. Helene can be reached at 208.297.6727 or hpeter@idaho.wish.org. Please join us in welcoming Helene into her new role!





UPCOMING EVENTS

NOV 1	Macy's Believe (until Dec. 24)
NOV 19	Christmas in Color (until January 2)
NOV 30	Families for Wishes Begins
NOV 30	Giving Tuesday
JAN 1	The Great Polar Bear Challenge

[Attend An Event](#)

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