

# Make-A-Wish®

IDAHO

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## WISHES GRANTED

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## A Wish Day at the Mall



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*I wish to have a shopping spree in Boise*

Arlene, 13  
lymphoma



**Arlene's positivity has remained unshaken throughout her battle with lymphoma which started with three separate trips to the emergency room. Finally, a doctor noticed a lump on her neck and recommended an immediate CT scan. While stuck in the hospital with a life-threatening illness, Arlene always made sure to ask the nurses and doctors if their days were going well, even if hers wasn't.**

**"We learned just how strong she is and how much positiveness she showed through the hard and rough moments when we first learned that she had cancer," said Arlene's mom, Jessica.**

**Arlene lives in east Idaho and wished to have a shopping spree in Boise. Make-A-Wish® Idaho provided lodging and limousine service for the family's visit to the state capital, but the main event occurred on December 1 at the Boise Towne Square Mall. Arlene and her family received V.I.P. treatment at Macy's, Coach, The Apple Store and from Santa Claus himself. Arlene's wish was Make-A-Wish Idaho's 1,800th wish, and she was interviewed about her experience on the local news.**

**Arlene told Santa that she "didn't want anything because I already have everything I've ever wanted, but I hope to get better soon." That's our wish, too, Arlene.**

Help Make Wishes Like Arlene's Come True

## Ready for a Snowboarding Spree



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*I wish to have a  
shopping spree*

Lucas, 18  
cancer



The year was a rough one for Lucas. His cancer returned in the spring. He underwent multiple surgeries. The pandemic lingered. He missed all his senior festivities. He had to pause his chemotherapy and then restart. It seemed like his troubles would never end.

It was during this time of tribulations that Lucas made his shopping spree wish. He's an avid snowboarder, yearning for adventure, and he used his wish to seek out gear like a brand-new Frontier snowboard, a top-tier directional free-ride board that can tackle tough mountains when the snow is powdery, slick or sticky. Continuing with the snow-adventure theme, Lucas also selected a second snowboard, snowboarding clothes and snowboarding accessories; Lucas then used a little bit of his shopping spree to stock up on video games (for the meantime).

The wish was a much-needed boost during a difficult time. Lucas' mom, Alison, said, "What an amazing and priceless day! He was so surprised. [We're] so grateful and blessed to have such great programs and people out there to put some smiles on their faces! With what these kids have been through it is greatly needed!" According to mom, Lucas has only one big surgery left.

Once Lucas is feeling better, we're sure he's looking forward to 'shredding the pow' (snowboarder lingo for riding on fresh powder) on the mountains during his inevitable, well-deserved snowboarding spree.

Help Us Grant Wishes Like Lucas's



**Families for**

★ **Wishes**

**Make-A-Wish.** ★  
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This holiday season, Make-A-Wish® Idaho is calling on families across Idaho to come together through Families For Wishes, a fundraising campaign aimed at delivering hope and joy to children fighting critical illnesses.

“A child’s wish begins with hope, and hope begins with you,” said Janie Best President and CEO of Make-A-Wish Idaho. “By creating a Families For Wishes page and donating to Make-A-Wish Idaho this holiday season, you and your family can join us in bringing joy back into a the lives of local children.”

Signing up is as easy as one-two-three:

1. Visit <https://wish.org/idaho/families-wishes>
2. Join the Make-A-Wish Idaho team to raise funds to support local families.
3. Create a family fundraising page, add a picture, and begin fundraising!

Raise money simply through social media or email. There's no fundraising minimum or obligation. You can raise five cents, five bucks or five hundred dollars. Every red cent will go to help us grant a wish to an Idaho child with a critical illness.

The goal of this year’s Families for Wishes Fundraiser is to raise \$6500, the average cash cost of one wish. In 2022, Make-A-Wish Idaho aims to grant 85 wishes. Currently, there are over 145 kids waiting for their wishes, and donations will help Make-A-Wish Idaho grant the waiting wishes in a safe, efficient manner.

If you need help setting up a fundraising page, please email Communication and Development Coordinator Josh Peterson at [jpeterson@idaho.wish.org](mailto:jpeterson@idaho.wish.org).

Sign Up or Donate



**'BRAVE' THE DATE**

JANUARY 1, 2022

**Make-A-Wish.**  
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Make-A-Wish Idaho will host its 19th annual Great Polar Bear Challenge fundraiser on January 1, 2022 at Lucky Peak Reservoir. Hundreds of hardy Idahoans

will bear 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. Diving into ice-cold water has never been so heartwarming.

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. TV's Larry Gebert will emcee the event and thrill us all with his water-skiing prowess.

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.

We're looking forward to seeing you at the reservoir on New Year's Day.

Take the Great Polar Bear Challenge



**macys** | **Make-A-Wish**  
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*Believe*

*I wish to have a shopping spree in SLC*  
Karlee, 13  
cystic fibrosis

WRITE A LETTER NOW



Making a difference in the life of an Idaho child with a critical illness is as easy as writing a letter to Santa.

Macy's beloved Believe letter-writing campaign which gives believers of all ages the opportunity to send letters and deliver wishes. Now until 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®, up to one million dollars, to help children fighting critical illnesses.

You can help the Idaho chapter by following [the link](#) below which will ensure your letter helps Idaho kids! You can also visit Macy's in person and write a letter there.

You can help us make more wishes come true (and maybe get on Santa's nice list) by writing a quick letter to that jolly old elf who enthusiastically told everyone at Make-A-Wish Idaho that he would love to hear from all of you.

Write a Letter to Santa



Make-A-Wish.  
**WISHES IN  
FLIGHT**  
IDAHO

**Mark your calendars! The Wishes in Flight Telethon will be held on April 6, 2022. The goal of the telethon is raise airline miles to send wish kids on their wish trips.**

**Airline miles donated to Make-A-Wish Idaho never expire, so it's always a great time to donate!**

[Donate Airline Miles Today](#)



🎁 **Year-End** 🎁  
**Giving Strategies**

Make-A-Wish



**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 [jbest@idaho.wish.org](mailto:jbest@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.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Ongoing Macy's Believe (until Dec. 24)

Ongoing Families for Wishes (until Dec. 31)

Ongoing Black Bear Diner: Save Room for a Wish (Until Dec.31)

Ongoing Christmas in Color (until Jan. 2)

Ongoing Subaru Share the Love Event (until Jan. 3)

JAN 1 The Great Polar Bear Challenge

[Attend An Event](#)

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