



A Year of Transition

For Fiscal Year 2021, Make-A-Wish Connecticut embraced a world filled with pandemic recommendations, those crafted by national organizations like the Centers for Disease Control and those crafted by our own Make-A-Wish America Medical Advisory Council. This changed how we granted wishes.

At Make-A-Wish, our mission is to create life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses. Our families and medical professionals share with us that a wish becomes an important part of the healing process, helping children manage, and even overcome, their illnesses.

We strive to bring that lasting hope and joy to all of the Connecticut children we serve while keeping health and safety a priority. As we share our Fiscal Year 2021 Audited Financial Statements, two things are amazingly clear:

- You, our donors and supporters have recognized the value of a wish and continue to support us – keeping us in a strong financial position.
- Wishes are still happening. In fact, we granted an additional 13 wishes over Fiscal Year 2020.

What has changed are the type of wishes we are granting, and the expenses involved in those wishes. Wishes have transitioned to adventures like road trips to national parks, virtual celebrity meetings, playhouses, shopping sprees, staycations, wishes for pets, computers, new therapy or gaming rooms, bedroom renovations or backyard retreats. The expenses involved in these wishes are less than in Fiscal Year 2020 thanks to the generosity of our community contacts and the growth of partnerships in specific areas.

This changes our program ratio numbers dramatically, yet, by being good stewards of your funds we are dedicated to growing the number of wish kids we reach year-over-year. Because we know what you as a donor recognize, the power of a wish is unmeasurable.

In Fiscal Year 2022, Make-A-Wish Connecticut has budgeted for pre-pandemic wish numbers – 185 wishes. We are working with our medical community to increase referrals and we are working with our families to continue to provide customized and personal wish experiences that keep our kids safe.

Our strong financial position, our dedicated team, our army of volunteers and our board supporters have come together to create the life-changing wishes our Connecticut





children with critical illnesses and our community has come to expect. And we grant those wishes when our wish kids need it most – right now.

We hope that when you look at these audited statements, you don't focus on percentages but on how many children we reached. That you focus on the end goal – our vision to grant the wish of every eligible child.

Thank you for your continued support through this pandemic. We look forward to continuing the legacy of Make-A-Wish Connecticut with you.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pamela Keough".

Pamela Keough
President/Chief Executive Officer
Make-A-Wish Connecticut

