

*I wish to meet
Ron Magill*

Jadyn, 8
brain tumor



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Make-A-Wish®
SOUTHERN FLORIDA



*I wish to
see snow*

Arya, 4
cancer

THANK YOU

For making the impossible
possible for *wish kids*.

For a complete listing of our supporters, visit makeawishdonors.org



INTRODUCTION

The 2021 fiscal year was one of the most challenging, yet rewarding, years in our chapter's history. Granting more than 400 wishes in a pandemic is a huge accomplishment for which we all should be proud. Make-A-Wish® Southern Florida remained steadfast and dedicated to granting every wish that could be safely planned and executed.

When a critical illness enters a child's life, it interrupts their childhood, creating fear and unrest. A wish has the incredible power to restore their hope for the future, and enable them to focus on being a kid again. As long as children's lives are derailed by critical illnesses, we will continue to deliver our wish-granting mission: *Together, we create life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses.*

Please enjoy reading through these pages, as they provide an overview of the wonderful wishes that we grant. We thank you for all that you do, whether that is referring children, volunteering or providing us with the financial resources needed to grant wishes. Without you, we would not be able to make a positive impact in the lives of the children and families that we serve.

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



Wishes

“

No words can explain the gratitude I feel. Devon is not going to let the puppy go. I'm trying not to cry. This dog is now part of our family.

– *Devon's mother*



*I wish to have a Shetland
Sheepdog puppy*
Devon, 8
nervous system disorder



*I wish to meet
Ron Magill*

Jadyn, 8
brain tumor

Jadyn adores animals. During weeks of intense radiation treatments in her battle with a cancerous brain tumor, her pets brought her comfort and she found solace in virtual zoo visits. Because of her medical condition and the closures due to COVID-19, she didn't think she'd get her wish – to meet Zoo Miami Ambassador Ron Magill. She wanted to learn how to care for animals from someone who loves them just as much as she does.

After the doctor visits, the IVs that she hates so much, the loud MRI scans where she couldn't move, and all the stressful stuff that she had to endure, her wish was like her reward. For the first time in its 40-year history, Zoo Miami opened exclusively for one person – Jadyn!

“Jadyn always feels better around animals. An entire day at the zoo with VIP behind-the-scenes access validated her passion for animals and sparked something in her – to be like Ron Magill one day.”

– Jadyn's aunt

Wish Granters: Karen Mullins & Jennifer Prior
Referred by Nicole Boik, her child life specialist
Wish adopted by Atlantic Pacific Companies

“To have a young lady like this want to meet me is one of the greatest compliments I can get.”

– Ron Magill





*I wish to have
a playset*

Atori, 6
immune disorder

6 ATORI'S FAVORITE ESCAPE

Energetic, outgoing and outspoken, **Atori** never lets his immune disorder hinder him in any way. According to his mother, Atori “wants to do everything and anything a boy his age can and is supposed to do.” And what should a 6-year-old boy do anyway? Play, of course!

Atori’s wish to have a backyard playset is just what he needs to stay active, safe and smiling. He anxiously watched as his dream playset was installed, with all the features that he asked for and more. He counted down the days until he could take his first swing.

His mother said, “This playset is something that he’ll have forever. It’s going to be memories.”

Now that his wish came true, he can head outside to swing, rock climb and slide his way to adventure whenever he wants. He takes full advantage of his wish, enjoying the playset every day. He is always happy to show it off to his family, friends and neighborhood kids. Atori is the most popular kid in town!

“Every time he plays on his playset, he will think about Make-A-Wish. Even when it rains, he has to go out and play.”

– Atori’s mother

Wish Granters: Carole Ann Anderson & Katherine Wei
Referred by his mother
Wish adopted by Seminole Casino Hotel Immokalee





*I wish to have an
above ground pool*
Zion, 8
leukemia

Battling leukemia for almost a year, **Zion** longs to return to his usual athletic and active self. He is immunocompromised and unable to go to parks or exercise around other kids because of the threat of COVID-19. Being that he loves to swim, an above ground swimming pool in his backyard was the perfect wish for him!

On his wish day, which just happened to be the day before his 8th birthday, Zion couldn't wait to jump into the pool he had watched being installed. The water was cold but he didn't mind one bit as he tested out the pool with his friends and family.

Zion's father said, "It's great watching him jump in the pool. It's a really happy day for us."

His wish come true will be a source of fun and exercise. He can stay active and build back his strength while sharing laughs with his siblings and cousins. This pool will definitely make a big splash in his life. Zion looks forward to water gun fights, lounging on floats and ball tosses in his pool! Treading water with a giant smile on his face, Zion adds, "I really wanted a pool. I am so happy!"

"This is absolutely amazing – a godsend!"
– Zion's father

Wish Granters: Destiny Colton & Staci Goldstein
Referred by his father
Wish adopted by PNC Bank





*I wish to go to
the Florida Keys*

Sienna, 6
rare disease

Sienna's wish to go to the Florida Keys was more than an amazing family vacation – it was about discovering her true potential. Sienna's immune system tries to attack her heart so she can't overwork herself. She experiences a lot of pain in her limbs and battles anxiety that leaves her overthinking her illness.

During her wish, Sienna opened up to being adventurous and enjoyed so many fulfilling new experiences. Her Keys retreat included fishing, a dolphin encounter and animal interactions at the Zoological Wildlife Foundation. According to her parents, this trip was "life-changing" because it was the first time that she just let go and was happy to let go. It was a different kind of experience that brought her a new sense of calm and belonging.

Sienna's father said, "When she is happy, I am happy. She is such a brave girl, and this wish showed her to chase her dreams a little more."

"It felt amazing. Her smile hasn't been that big, not even for us. The smile she had that whole weekend. It was something different."

– Sienna's mother

Wish Granters: Kelly Murray & Nicole Sherk

Referred by her father

Wish adopted by Mary and Patrick McClain Foundation





*I wish to go on an
animal conservation
road trip*

Dylan, 18
nervous system
disorder

Dylan has had three surgeries and spent his lifetime fighting a nervous system disorder and its seizures. His medical battle hasn't dulled his love for animal research and marine biology, careers he hopes to someday pursue. In fact, Dylan says he relates with manatees because they are an endangered species and struggle to survive.

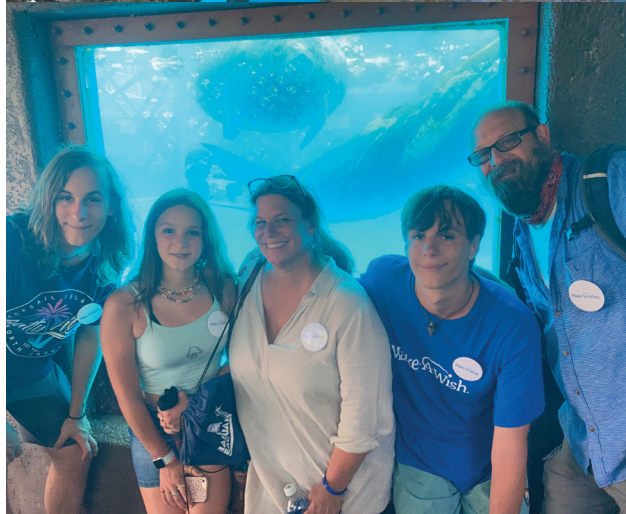
His wish was to embark on an animal conservation RV trip. He traveled from his North Carolina home to Florida including a stop at the Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge in Boynton Beach for a tram tour. At the Loggerhead Marinelife Center in Juno Beach, Dylan worked with rescued turtles and took an evening turtle walk to learn about the nesting and egg-laying process of sea turtles. At Miami Seaquarium, Dylan enjoyed VIP access to areas closed to the general public. He toured the manatee rehabilitation center and fed the manatees. Dylan said, "It's hard to put into words how amazing this trip has been. I am able to do a lot more than I used to be able to do. And this trip has really shown that."

His wish solidified his aspiration to have a career in animal conservation. It was also the ultimate opportunity to live out his dream AND celebrate being seizure-free!

"This trip was a million times better than I ever thought it could be."

– Dylan

Wish granted in collaboration with Make-A-Wish Central and Western North Carolina





*I wish to be
an EMT*

Meredith, 14
seizure disorder

Battling a seizure disorder since she was six months old, **Meredith** has a huge heart and a deep desire to help others because EMTs have helped her so much. She wished to experience the ins and outs of what it takes to be an everyday hero.

Meredith was introduced as the newest Palm Beach Gardens Fire Rescue crew member and proceeded right to medical training and interactive life-saving skills stations including administering CPR, bleeding control, splinting and how to take vital signs. Her mother said, "Her experience put her on the other side of things she has been on the receiving end of. It completed a sort of cycle that is interesting, engaging and exciting. She'll remember this day for a long time!"

She took a ride in an ambulance, sat in the driver's seat of a fire truck and walked across the ladder above the truck. Meredith received a very special souvenir – a personalized firefighter helmet. Chatting with the EMTs and paramedics was the perfect way to end her exhilarating day. She truly enjoyed this sneak peek into the daily grind of what she hopes will be her future career.

"Everyone was genuinely invested in Meredith's happiness. They took the time to set up an experience catered to her interests and abilities."

– Meredith's mother

Wish Granters: Fran Garfunkel & Teresa Wetzler-Finn
Referred by her mother
Wish adopted by the Levitz Family Foundation

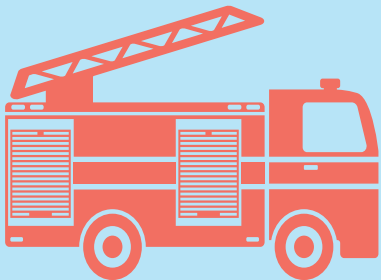
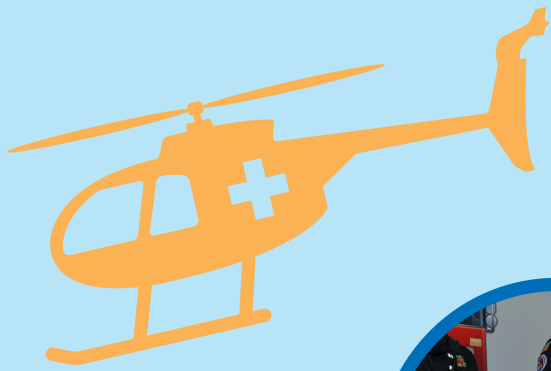


Wishes to be a firefighter, police officer or an EMT, like *Meredith's* wish, are some of the most heartwarming and fulfilling. Battling critical illnesses, our wish kids are all too familiar with receiving life-saving help from our first responders. Often, these brave kids are inspired by the real-life heroes and aspire to be just like them.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, first responders have answered the call with an additional role in our wish world as messengers of hope. Police and fire rescue departments all over our territory have joined in to help bring hope and happiness to wish kids during deliveries of virtual shopping spree and room makeover wishes, as well as wish enhancement car parades. Caravanning past wish kids' homes with sirens and lights galore, police cars, fire trucks and motorcycles add an extra-special element to a brave child's wish day. There's even been a few police helicopter flyovers.

FIRST RESPONDERS DELIVER HOPE







*COVID
Didn't Stop
US!*



In the 2021 fiscal year, even during the pandemic



nic, we granted **401** transformational wishes.

Supporters



“

“This golf cart is a symbol of victory. In this battle against cancer, we’re going to be victorious. You can’t help but think about the journey and all that she’s been through that led to this day, but today’s a really good day. It’s pure joy.”

– *Promise’s father*

*I wish to have
a golf cart*

Promise, 15
Hodgkin's lymphoma



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/The Miller Family Foundation
Peter and Tatiana Cancro
Weiss Family Foundation
Dennis Crowley
The Malnik Family
Drs. Ginger and Roger Medel
The Perez Family
Judd and Laura Zebersky
Richard S. and Robin Weissman and The Learning
Experience
Stanley and 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 and Jeremiah Gutierrez
James K. and 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 Foundation
Taylor and Lisa Gang
Brent and Nicollette Hagey
Alan and Janine Mandel
Susan Grune Meister
Sadaka Family Charitable Fund
Scherr Family Foundation
Vecchitto Family Charitable Foundation
Norman Earle Wedderburn
Sandy and Joe Gallaher & Courtney and Jeremy
Larkin
Murray H. Goodman
Jorge and Sherri Gutierrez
L. Scott Helms and Jorge Alonso
Josh and Stacey Mandel
Jack and Jennifer Barnes
Carlos and Angie Valdes
Sheila Cesarano
Jamie Elias
Jodi Siravo
Rick and Jackie Fernandez



In October 2021, we celebrated the beginning of the construction phase of the Finker-Frenkel Wish House. This is a long-awaited dream and an important part of a greater effort to expand and enhance the ability to serve wish children and their families, as well as strengthen Make-A-Wish Southern Florida's connectedness to the community.

Through endless dedication and the actions of many, the dream of a permanent facility started to come to life and culminated with the unveiling of the designs and renderings of the Wish House. With years of planning and by the generosity of so many supporters and philanthropists, we were able to break ground on our new home.

This 30,000-square foot 5-story building will provide our wish children and their families an immersive, creative, inspirational, and fun experience producing an enhanced journey of designing and discovering their wish that is so individual to that child. This house will also serve to establish our permanence in the community, house our administrative offices, and advance some of the revenue opportunities for granting more wishes than ever before... all with the common goal to grant the wish of every eligible child.

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

Marko & Shelly Dimitrijevic

Anonymous

Nick & Adriana Ayala

Michael & Caroline Parrish

“Make-A-Wish is hope, inspiration and possibility. It’s the tie that binds medical care and family support to give a child all they need to make recovery a reality. We volunteer with our son and it enriches our lives, bringing layers of depth to our relationship. We also volunteer with our friends and family, bringing deeper understanding of what it means to be a friend and part of a family.”

– Marcus & Lauren Fernandez

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Joining the Tampa Bay Advisory Board in 2011, Marcus Fernandez has served as the advisory board chair, and currently is a member of the chapter’s Board of Directors. He and his wife Lauren have chaired Wishmaker’s Ball, Dishes & Wishes and Walk For Wishes Tampa. Active as volunteer wish granters, they are also members of the Cornerstone Society. Over the years, Marcus and his law firm, Kinney, Fernandez & Boire, have donated enough to grant 50 wishes. Marcus is always promoting Make-A-Wish and recruiting new supporters.



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
Stacey and Josh Mandel
Family Foundation
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
Ms. Theresa Mandell
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
Mike & Amanda Beauvais
Boyers Law Group
Mr. Douglas Brehm
Ms. Sheila M. Cesarano
Mr. & Mrs. Richard K.
Childress
Mr. Greg DeChurch
Alec Dilanchian
Michelle & Jeffrey
Eisenberg
Mr. & Mrs. Richard
Eisenberg
Ms. Amy L. Federman
Mr. & Mrs. Brent Goldman
Dr. & Mrs. Samuel Joseph
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. Norman 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
Mr. & Mrs. Tim & Lois Farrell
Mr. Joseph M. Ferrio
Mr. & Mrs. Bryan
Fetherston
Mr. & Mrs. Yale Fishman
John & Jericho Flinn
Mr. & Mrs. Ruth & Randy
Friedlander
Mr. & Mrs. Rick Gallo
Ms. Barclay Gang
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Godsey
Vita & Dan Goldberg
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
The Parker Company
Mr. & Mrs. Evan Rees
Mrs. Danielle Rubinstein
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Rux
Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Sard
Storch Family Fund
Rich and Teresa Thompson
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

The Make-A-Wish® Champions are a group of pace-setting professional leaders and change-makers with diverse professional and personal backgrounds and interests, who, together, are dedicated to furthering support of Make-A-Wish Southern Florida and its mission.

Todd Linden

Co-Chair

Chris Cataldi

Co-Chair

Mr. Alberto Alvarado
Mr. Benjamin Arndt
Mr. C. Brandon Arzabe
Mr. Maxx A. Carney
Mr. Herman Castro
Mr. & Mrs. Alex and
Jacky Denault
Ms. Christie Doura
Mr. Derick Duchodni
Mr. Richard Fausset
Mr. Carlos Ferreyros &
Mrs. Carla Cacero

Ms. Vanessa Florez
Mr. Carlos Gaviria
Mr. & Mrs. Derrick and
Omaira Garcia
Mr. Harris Gilbert &
Mr. Andrew Smallman
Mr. Spencer Hastings
Mr. Todd Heller
Dr. Moises Issa
Mr. Joseph Jackson, CPA
Miss Salina Jaffer
Mr. Marc Kleiner
Mr. Eliot LaBreche
Mr. John Lenahan
Mr. Harris Mandler
Mr. & Dr. Matthew and
Jennifer Mazzarella
Mr. Ryan Powers

Ms. Lisa Rectenwald
Mr. Josh Rudolph
Mr. Steven Schermer
Mr. Samuel Schwartz
Mr. Marc Silverstone &
Mr. Voytek Faber
Ms. Rachel Simowitz
Mr. Sean Tolkin
Mr. Osvaldo Torres
Mrs. Stephanie Turk
Mr. Broderick Ureel
Ms. Jennifer Vitale
Mr. Joshua Weisenfeld
Mr. Winston Wood
Mr. Brian P. Yates
Mr. & Mrs. Tom and Jennifer Zur

WISH SOCIETY

The Wish Society provides a forum for professional female leaders to support, inspire and empower one another to make a difference in the lives of children battling critical illnesses.

Erin Briede

Chair

Lisa Balkin

Co-Chair

Kristin Brownstein
Leslie Carey

Sally Contreras
Clemie Corzo
Amy Federman
Vanessa Fioravante
Christina Genovesi
Diana Girard
Lizabeth Kane-Hanan
Cynthia Lau

Katelyn Lequerica
Marianne Luis
Gabby Shayne
Lauren Silverman
Gina Watson
Michelle Watson
Cristina Wiborg

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

“We believe everyone has a duty to make the world a better place. Make-A-Wish is God’s way of sending angels to care for his children. Sarasota is our home. Our local kids have important wishes and we want to help them come true. Wish kids have gone through so much so it is particularly rewarding to bring joy to their lives.”

– Donna & Jon Boscia

For more than a decade, Donna and Jon Boscia have supported Make-A-Wish Southern Florida in several ways. They have been long standing supporters of the Annual Cooking For Wishes interactive luncheon and adopted the heartfelt wishes of many children. The Boscias truly understand the joy a wish provides and therefore, they continue to inspire others as ambassadors of the Make-A-Wish mission across the Suncoast.



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

Greg Baty
Vice Chair
Mortgage300

Jodi Siravo
Treasurer
24By7Security, Inc.

Jennifer Barnes
Medtronic

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 & Boire, PA

Mayte Fernandez
Momentum Consulting Corporation

Karen Ford
Bacardi

Eugene Frenkel
Legacy Wealth Group

Taylor Gang
Evensky & Katz/Foldes Financial
Wealth Management

Todd Glaser
Entrepreneur/Developer

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

Shareef Malnik
Chairman of the Board Emeritus
Greyhawk Capital LLC

Drew Mandala
Stillwater Structured Finance LLC

Joe Perez
Zerep Holdings

Danielle Rubinstein
Greenberg Traurig

Barry Skolnick
BLS Asset Management Corporation

Sean Tolkin
World Travel Holdings

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.

Gary Godsey

Chair

Jones Lang LaSalle

Ted Abrams

Joffrey's Coffee & Tea Company

Kerry Allgire

TD SYNnex

Amanda Beauvais

L'Oreal USA

Marcus Fernandez

Kinney, Fernandez & Boire, PA

Kimberly Ficocelli-Rademacher

MaxHealth

John Flinn

Immediate Past Chair

RIPA & Associates

Steven Gillis

Transportation Control Systems, Inc.

Greg Grabau

Monin Gourmet Flavorings

C.J. Mintrone

PNC Bank

Mala Murthy

United Healthcare

Frank Musolino Jr.

Power Design

Anthony Pedicini

Strategic Image Management

Chris Rux

Cherry Bekaert

Rich Thompson

BKS Partners

Jim Vogt

AGPM, LLC

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

Chair

POP Yachts & POP RVs

Sherra Fritz

WWSB ABC 7

Terri Klauber

Michael's On East

Phil Mancini

Michael's On East

Luke Nicholas

Mariner Wealth Advisors

Renee Phinney

Immediate Past Chair

Spotlight Graphics

Elena Reuter

Community Volunteer

“We love to help those who have courageously soldiered on in the face of adversity. Wish kids and their families are the most resilient, strong and courageous people we have ever encountered in our lives. Every time we adopt a wish and see the joy that it brings to the entire family, it makes us want to do more for Make-A-Wish.”

– Lianne and Jeff Caruso



DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Lianne and Jeff Caruso have been strong supporters of Make-A-Wish Southern Florida since 2017. Lianne is a Southwest Florida Advisory Board member as well as a volunteer wish granter. The Carusos are Cornerstone Society members and avid event supporters. As event chair, Lianne’s vision, leadership and expertise has brought in nearly \$1,000,000 via the Wishmaker’s Party. Jeff’s company, Caruso Homes, has committed to granting wishes and engaging vendors and staff. The Caruso family is a brilliant example of selflessness and passion.

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

Pam Blackwell
First Horizon Foundation

Lianne Caruso
Caruso Homes

Michele Eddy
Community Volunteer
Wish Mom

Theresa Fletcher
Hotwire Communications

Amy Frith
Golisano Children's Hospital of
Southwest Florida

Rick Gallo
CloseWatch Services &
Rick Gallo Auctioneer

Jenny Gezella
Naples Princess

Gordon Glover
Suffolk

Brandy Ollie
Go Platinum Transportation

Jason Rundorff
Naples Global Advisors, LLC

Lori Teague
American Financial Network, Inc.

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. Laura D'Addese
Pediatric Heart Failure and Heart
Transplantation
Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

Dr. Joanna Davis
Pediatric Hematology/Oncology
Specialist
Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer
Center/ University of Miami
Health System

Dr. Maggie Fader
Pediatric Hematology/Oncology
Nicklaus Children's Hospital/Kidz
Medical Group

Dr. J. Blaine John
Pediatric Cardiology
St. Joseph's Children's Hospital/
Pediatric Cardiology Associates

Mrs. Michele King
Director of Child Advocacy Programs
Golisano Children's Hospital of
Southwest Florida

Dr. Ginger T. Medel
Honorary Medical Advisor

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.

Sofia Nicastro
President

Rebecca Harkins
Vice President

Leah Schneider
Secretary

Aditya Kapadia
Treasurer

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Marketing Chair

Ariana Clarke
At-Large Member

Griffin Byrd
Peyton Byrd
Sophia Cardanel
Ryan Clarke
Angelina Godinez

Jack Gonzalez
Hannah Kelly
Arwa Kheda
Avery Teifeld
Sofia Teifeld
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.

Leanne Millikan
President

Marc Oliver
Vice President

Lizet Mejia
Secretary

Sasha Nenchuk
Treasurer

Karissa Ta
Marketing Chair

Ava Aloia
Jocelyn Arroyo
Benjamin D. Axline
Ashley Ayres
Kaylee Ayres
Morgan Barkhurst
Carson Batcheller
Kirchgeßner
Ashby Belcastro
Alyssa M. Bernhardt
Delaney Blackwell
Katie Blackwell
Stephen Casey
Dominic Colantonio
Angelina Crawford Frantz
Mia Cross

Marissa Diaz
Mathew J. Glarum
Michelle A. Glarum
Kaylee Gomez
Aaliyah Gonzalez
Madisyn Goodman
Sara F. Goodwich
Karen He
Talia Iannelli
Leah M. Idzi
Lauryn Jackson
Addie Jenkinson
Jonathan C. Jordan
Kate Kramer
Zachary Laswick
Lauren Major

Victoria Malaszuk
Victoria Mena
Karen Merilien
Riley Morauski
Rachel Newman
Madyson R. Polanco
Olivia Rose
Aliyah Serbu
Berklie Simmering
Annie Vedder
Matthew J. Walther
Kellie A. Weisse
Madison Young
Elyse Yun
Payton Ziegler
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 Party Naples and Walk For Wishes Southwest Florida Benefactor

Mary and Patrick McClain Foundation

Walk For Wishes Southwest Florida Benefactor

SeBern Custom Homes

Mac & Cheese Challenge Benefactors

Metro Glass & Mirror

George and Sally King

WISH GRANTER MILESTONES

Make-A-Wish Southern Florida is fortunate to have an army of caring and committed volunteers that assist our chapter in many capacities. Our wish granters work tirelessly to discover the most heartfelt wish of each courageous wish kid, and then help make that wish come true. We extend extra appreciation to the following elite wish granters who have helped to grant more than 100 heartfelt wishes.

100 Wishes+

Janine Balkin
Ralph Balkin
Cindy Baumgarten
Dianne Billig
Sara Delgado
Gustavo Diliz
Sonia Diliz
Jane Farnsworth
Maxwell James

Dan Kaufman
Leslie Levine
German Miret
Candace Norton
Sue Pikus
Vikki Rissman
Jessica Rivera
Gail Shutz
Francine Waldman

200 Wishes+

Mindy Brown
Martha Carmen
Annie Ruiz
Kara Salsburg-Boehly

400 Wishes+

Frances Garfunkel

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

“Make-A-Wish has been such a central part of our philanthropic endeavors in South Florida as we see the incredible work and impact that Make-A-Wish has on families. We are so proud of our son Shareef for carrying on our legacy, with his unwavering passion in several leadership roles that support Make-A-Wish. Our connection with Make-A-Wish has filled our family with joy.”

– Al & Nancy Malnik

For more than 22 years, Al and Nancy Malnik have been avid supporters of Make-A-Wish Southern Florida. As Lifetime Benefactors of the InterContinental® Miami Make-A-Wish® Ball, they have tables at the Ball each year, further sharing their passion of Make-A-Wish with their family and friends. As a thank you to guests who adopt wishes at the gala, the Malniks host an exclusive Garden Party at their beautiful home every spring. In addition, they have committed \$1 million to the Finker-Frenkel Wish House, our future home.



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 &
Southwest Florida

Mary Holt
Director of Mission Resources

Bich-ly Ludwig
Director of Philanthropy

Marissa Shea
Director of Mission Delivery

Melanie Holley
Volunteer Program Manager

Jackie Perl
Special Events Manager

Kristen Bladen
Donor Services Manager
Tampa Bay

Kelsey Makowski
Development & Events
Manager—Tampa Bay

Yolegny Santana
Accounting & Human
Resources Manager

Kevin Fantis
Development Manager

Renee DePinto
Development Manager
Southwest Florida

Jessica Rivera
Senior Community Development
Coordinator

Denae Ankele
Senior Brand Advancement
Coordinator

Patty Escobar
Senior Grants & Development
Specialist

Jessy Balbuena
Senior Wish Coordinator

MAKE-A-WISH STAFF (CONTINUED...)

Megan McGee
Senior Volunteer Coordinator

Marina Deluca
Senior Creative Designer

Elizabeth Erra
Senior Wish Coordinator

Katia Rodrigues
Senior Wish Coordinator

Patty Abreu
Medical & Community
Outreach Coordinator

Martha Carmen
Wish Coordinator

Alex Lieberman
Wish Coordinator

Jade Ferrada
Development Coordinator

Tessa Dvorak
Medical and Community Outreach
Coordinator—West Coast

Katie Alexander
Special Events Coordinator
Tampa Bay

Kayla Scognamillo
Special Events Coordinator

Caitlyn Shapiro
Special Events Coordinator

Liv Mayrom
Brand Advancement Coordinator

Jacqueline Alexander
Wish Assist Coordinator

Suzanne Gindi
Wish Coordinator

Alexa Bowman
Special Events Coordinator
Southwest Florida

Miguel Medina
Community Engagement Coordinator
Southwest Florida

Carrie Shaw
Development Coordinator
Suncoast

Danijela Gavrilovic
Mission Support Administrator

MAKE-A-WISH SOUTHERN FLORIDA'S NEW HOME *Update*

In 2021, we broke ground on the chapter's new headquarters in Miami's Overtown neighborhood.

The 30,000-square-foot building will rise five stories, serve as an innovative Wish House inclusive of emerging technology to provide children with an inspirational, fun and safe destination to experience wishes and also include 15,000 square feet of office space. 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 in our local community and provide additional revenue opportunities.

“The Finker-Frenkel Wish House is coming to life! When construction is complete, it will provide critically-ill children an amazing place to imagine their one true wish while also provide the chapter with event and administrative space.”

*– Richard Weissman,
Chairman of the Board of Directors*



Facts & Figures

“

It's an emotional day because Malik has suffered so much. Today, he feels good and we are all very much grateful. His wish means excitement that he's officially done with leukemia.

– *Malik's father*

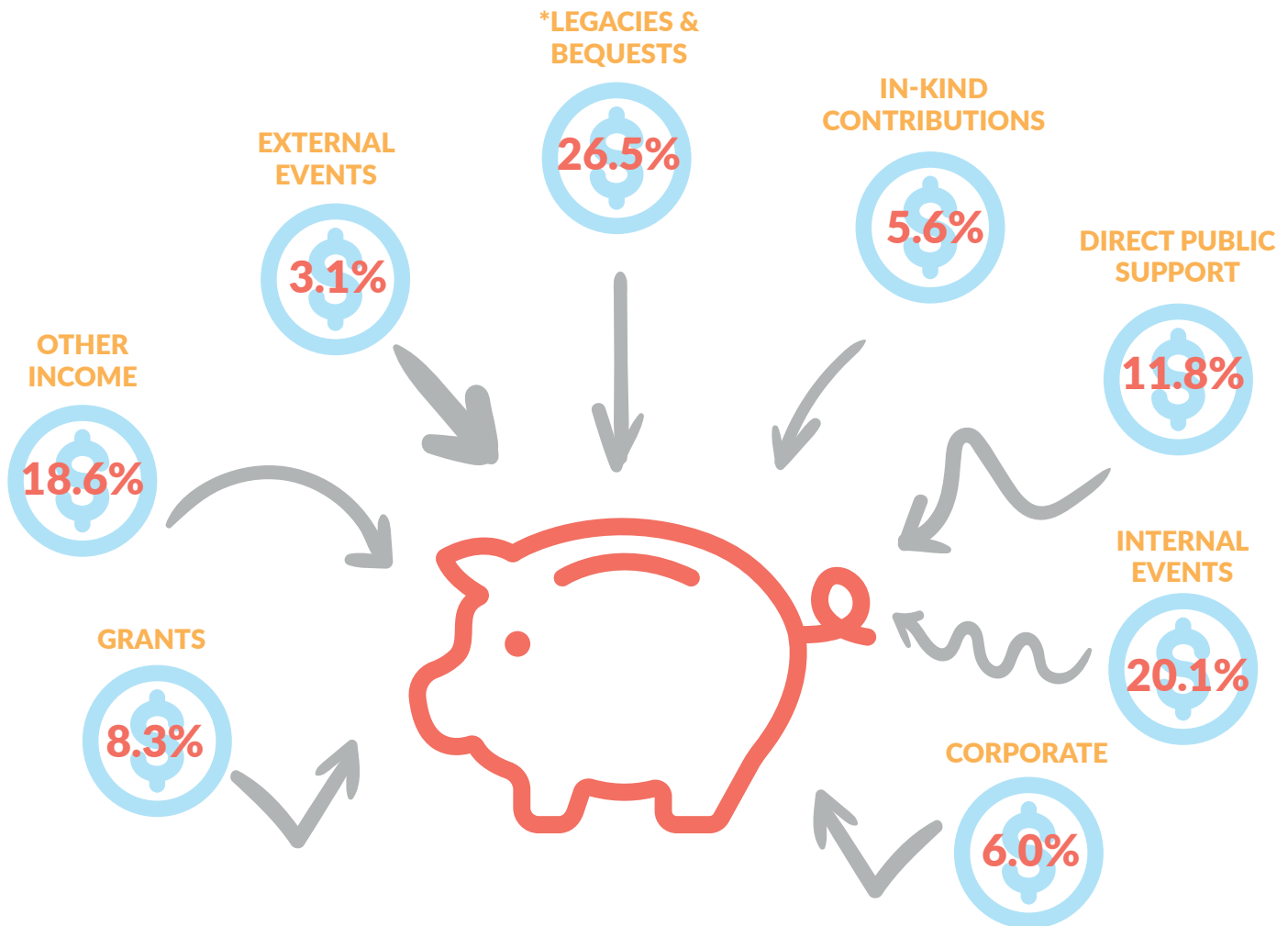


*I wish to have
a golf cart*
Malik, 10
leukemia

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 CAME FROM...



*Includes a transformational gift from the Estate of Frank A. Wagner. See more about making a Legacy Gift like Mr. Wagner on page 44.

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION August 31, 2021 and 2020	2021	2020
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$12,117,269	\$12,871,878
Investments	17,883,887	11,055,158
Contributions Receivable	9,863,315	11,507,828
Property and Equipment, Net	9,092,753	226,756
Other Assets	1,468,804	1,673,225
Total Assets	\$50,426,028	\$37,334,845
Current Liabilities	\$4,937,320	\$1,051,470
Net Assets	45,488,708	36,283,375
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$50,426,028	\$37,334,845

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES Years Ended August 31, 2021 and 2020	2021	2020
Operating Revenue		
Public Support	\$12,859,950	\$10,350,848
Investment & Other Income	3,634,669	932,473
Total Operating Revenues	16,494,619	11,283,321
Operating Expenses		
Program Services	5,320,802	4,769,508
Fundraising	1,799,578	2,204,752
Management & General	886,495	841,578
Total Operating Expenses	8,006,875	7,815,838
Non-Operating Revenue	717,589	3,574,848
Change in Net Assets	\$9,205,333	\$7,042,331

Audited financial statements are available upon request.

LEAVING A *Legacy*

**Thank you to the generosity
of these families and estates
for remembering Make-A-Wish
Southern Florida in their
estate planning.**

Trust & Estate of Richard H. Balogh
Jack Chesler Irrevocable Trust
Susan C. Gutman Revocable Trust
LCEC
Elsie Luhan Charitable Trust
Marlboro Realty Associates
Shirley H. Mosko Revocable Trust
Estate of Joan Murphy
Trust of Anna Mae Pasqua
Estate of Norma Perisi
Estate of Phillip M. Resnick
Dorothy Sampson Trust
Estate of Dorothy Schrold
Estate of Henry Slosing
Robert S. Sudick Foundation
Estate of Christine Thompson
Estate of Frank A. Wagner
Estate of Eugene T. Whalen

Dear Friends of Make-A-Wish,

Thank you for supporting my personal favorite charity, Make-A-Wish Southern Florida. I have made their mission to create life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses my very own personal mission and am doing everything I can to help. It is my hope that you will join me and do the same.

Like the rest of the world, Make-A-Wish Southern Florida had many challenges due to COVID-19. The biggest lesson we learned was to refocus our efforts on less traditional ways of raising funds.

Leaving a legacy and updating your will is often an uncomfortable subject for discussion and is very personal, but we must all do it at some point. There are many ways to help non-profits in your estate planning, but the simplest way is to bequeath a fixed dollar amount or leave a percentage of your estate.

I encourage you to reach out to your attorney, accountant or one of our Make-A-Wish staff to help guide you through this process. I promise you'll feel great after like I did, especially knowing that we are helping to support future wish kids like 10-year old **Asia**, who suffers from a blood disorder and wished to have a virtual shopping spree.

I truly believe that when we help others, we help ourselves. Stay safe and be well - thank you for your support.

My warmest wishes,
Bob DesJardin
Make-A-Wish Supporter since 2010

*I wish to have a virtual
shopping spree*

Asia, 10
blood disorder



*“Leaving your legacy through planned giving is
one of best ways to show your support to your
favorite charity and I’d like to share how you can,
just like I did.”*

– Bob DesJardin

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



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

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