

wishful THINKING

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
MAKE-A-WISH® WISCONSIN
2023 ISSUE 3

WISHING
FOR FISHING



I wish to have a fishing boat

Gourmet Wishes

Indulge in incredible food
and drinks while making
wishes come true



**TRIPS THAT
TRANSFORM**

Donate your Airline Miles

wishful THINKING

Since 2004, Wishful Thinking has showcased the hope, strength and joy found in every wish story. From the medical professionals who refer a child, to the trained volunteers from across Wisconsin who aid us, to the donors whose gifts fuel our mission, it takes an entire community to make a wish come true for a child with a critical illness.

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wish.org/wisconsin

Thanks to you, this World Wish Day® was reason for celebrating. From supporting local events, to sharing powerful stories of wish alumni, to donating to help grant the wishes of children with critical illnesses – you were proof that where there's a wish, there's a way.

As a child faces the fear, isolation and harsh treatments that come with a critical illness, it's important that they don't have to wait even one unnecessary day for a wish – that's because we know that a wish has the power to help kids like Evan (see page 10) overcome the hopelessness, depression and loneliness that often come with a critical illness. In fact, the overwhelming majority of medical providers agree that wishes can create better health outcomes and better odds of overcoming an illness.

Whether you choose to donate funds, auction items or in-kind services; host or attend a fundraising event; include Make-A-Wish Wisconsin as a beneficiary in your will; volunteer or give unused airline miles at wish.org/wisconsin/miles, the gifts you share will have a far-reaching impact on the special children we serve.

As you read about the wide range of medical professionals, business leaders, volunteers, event participants, donors and others supporting our mission, we hope that you might see a way YOUR special skills, experience and circumstances can fit into the Make-A-Wish mission. Together, we create life changing wishes for children with critical illnesses. Thank you!

Warmest Wishes,



Craig Faust
Board Chair



Patti Gorsky
President & CEO



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Join us for a night of indulgence while making wishes come true.
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Evan's wish to have a fishing boat brings renewed strength and joy.



ARTS PARTNERSHIP

Marcus Performing Arts Center

We are excited to announce that we have entered into a new partnership with the Marcus Performing Arts Center. Both organizations will work together to help grant wishes for local children battling critical illnesses and giving wish kids and their families unique opportunities to engage in the arts in Milwaukee.

Throughout the 2023/24 performance season, wish families will be invited to participate in a variety of Family Nights hosted by the Marcus Performing Arts Center. MPAC's Family Nights program is an interactive experience designed to create lasting memories through special family-friendly activities that provide deeper connections to the performances on stage.

In addition to the granting of wishes through special performances and the Family Nights program, a giveback program through select ticket purchases to these shows will raise funds to benefit future wish kids. Stay tuned for more information coming soon!

Special thanks to the Mars Family Foundation for sponsoring this magical partnership.

KIDS IN CHARGE

This school year make wishes come true by engaging your child's peers, school or youth organization in hands-on fundraising and service learning that will impact their classmates and other kids in your community.

Contact Jordyn Dutkiewicz to see how you can get involved in Kids For Wish Kids today: jdutkiewicz@wisconsin.wish.org

Selfless. Dedicated. Generous.

THANK YOU, BOARD MEMBERS

We are so grateful for the following Board Directors who have given selflessly as volunteer leaders for the past six years. While they are rotating off the board, we know their legacy with Make-A-Wish Wisconsin will continue.



Blaise Beaulier

Blaise brought insight, experience and leadership to the Make-A-Wish Wisconsin Board. He served as Board Secretary and on the Board Nominating Committee. He and his wife Denise have also sponsored wishes, contributed auction items and so much more. We are deeply appreciative for his and their many contributions.



Cathy Dworak

Cathy is finishing her 2nd 6-year term on our Board. She has served in a variety of capacities including Board Chair, Vice Chair and more. As Director of Community Outreach and Player/Alumni Relations for the Green Bay Packers, Cathy continues to ensure every Packers wish is a meaningful experience for wish kids from Wisconsin and across the country. Thank you, Cathy, for all that you do for wish kids.



Craig Faust

For more than 20 years, **Craig** has been an avid champion of the Make-A-Wish mission. He served as Board Chair this past year and previously served as Vice Chair and Fundraising Chair. Craig also leads the annual Yacht Blast for Kids which will be hitting the \$2 million mark at the event on September 16, 2023 (see page 4). We are grateful for Craig's service and dedication.



Katina Shaw

For more than 15 years, **Katina** has been a staunch Make-A-Wish supporter, helping grant dozens of Milwaukee Brewers wishes. As a Board Director, she served on our Wish Granting Committee, the Board Nominating Committee and Board DEI Committee. It has been a joy to have her as part of our leadership.



Colleen Valkoun

Colleen is a long-time supporter of Make-A-Wish Wisconsin, playing an active role over the past 15 years in our annual Wish-A-Thon on iHeartMedia. She has introduced many connections to our mission and has been a champion of our Madison Regional Office in Middleton. We are so thankful for Colleen's leadership.

Featured Fundraiser

GOURMET WISHES

Join in the magic of making wishes come true, while experiencing our spectacular signature gala on October 11th at the Resch Expo overlooking Lambeau Field.



Indulge in gourmet food, decadent desserts, martinis, wine and craft beer. More than 40 of the area's finest establishments participate and serve their best, including: Republic Chophouse, Mangiare, Black & Tan Grille, 1919 Kitchen & Tap at Lambeau Field, Taverne in the Sky at Lodge Kohler, Primal Eats, and Cheese Cake Heaven to name a few. Plus, enjoy live music, an impressive auction, inspiring program with creative storytelling featuring local wish kids & much more. This year's theme will be inspiring and fun!

Secure your place as a cherished sponsor of this incredible event today to help give transformative hope, strength and joy to local kids battling critical illnesses. Please call (920) 993-9994 or email Kris at kteofilo@wisconsin.wish.org to reserve your table.

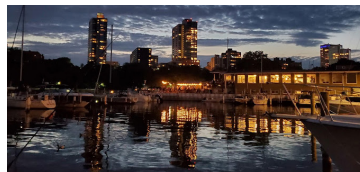
NOW THROUGH DECEMBER HIRE FOR HOPE

Fusion Recruiters will donate \$500 in your organization's name to Make-A-Wish Wisconsin upon completion of any searches initiated or referred by Make-A-Wish partners. Contact John Hagenow: jhagenow@fusionrecruiters.com.

SEPTEMBER 3 & 17, & OCTOBER 1 @ GALLERIA WEST, BROOKFIELD CARS, CROISSANTS & COFFEE

This family friendly event gathers car enthusiasts to enjoy fabulous vehicles of all types, makes and models all while raising funds to grant a local child's wish. For more info, visit wish.org/wisconsin/cars

SEPTEMBER 16 @ MILWAUKEE YACHT CLUB BOAT LOAD OF WISHES



Join us for a magnificent evening under the stars to celebrate the 15th Anniversary of Yacht Blast for Kids. Enjoy the breathtaking private views of Lake Michigan and a mesmerizing sunset. Indulge in gourmet delicacies while enjoying live music under the stars. "Boat Load of Wishes" will feature a spectacular wine tasting, live and silent auctions, liquor pull and much more!

For more info, visit yachtblast.givesmart.com



That Taco Guy Food Truck will be parked at Sahale Ale Works in Grafton on September 2nd for a night of tacos and beer.

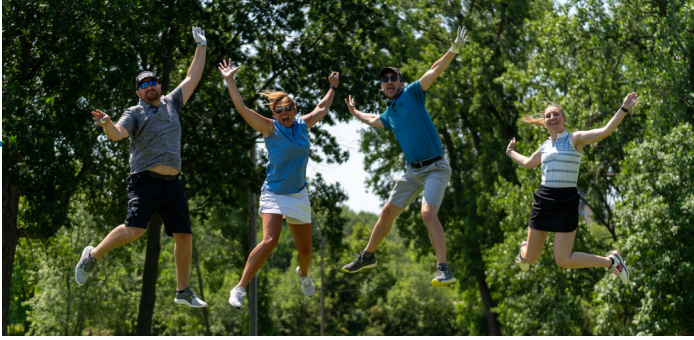
That Taco Guy will be donating 10% of food sales back to Make-A-Wish Wisconsin.

What a spec-taco-lar way to fundraise!

SEPTEMBER 26 @ POPLAR HALL, APPLETON & OCTOBER 10 @ GATHER AT DEER DISTRICT, MILWAUKEE WINDOWS FOR A CAUSE

After the professionals at Renewal by Andersen install new windows in a home, they take the old windows and collaborate with local artists, organizations, and community figures to create art pieces that are auctioned off to support local wish kids who are battling critical illnesses. The art is themed around a local child's wish and inspires the artists to tap into their creativity as they turn used into unforgettable.

For more info, visit wish.org/wisconsin/windows



WISHES ON PAR

Golf for Wishes presented by CoVantage Credit Union was held on July 10th at Butte des Morts Country Club in Appleton

156 golfers experienced an inspiring day of golf with fun hole events & incredible treats throughout the course, a delicious lunch sponsored by The Honey Baked Ham Co., an impressive auction, and dinner where they were inspired by local wish kids and their families sharing their impactful story.

Special thanks to our dedicated committee, participants and sponsors for helping to make 20 life-changing wishes come true for local kids facing heartbreaking critical illnesses! Special thanks to our caring sponsors who helped make this important event possible!

Photos from this event, courtesy of Mason Sterr and Digital Fever Media, are available online at [flickr.com/makeawishwisconsin/albums/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/makeawishwisconsin/).

DRIVE FOR DREAMS

In June, Bergstrom Automotive team members partnered with Make-A-Wish Wisconsin to raise critical funds for local wish kids.

During their 2023 June 3000 & Drive for Dreams campaign, Bergstrom Automotive team members raised a record \$302,275, bringing the total raised to more than \$3 million throughout our 23-year meaningful partnership! Bergstrom team members conducted numerous fundraisers, and all Bergstrom Automotive dealerships donated \$5 for every test drive taken and \$50 for every vehicle purchased. Plus, Bergstrom donated \$5 for each new fan on their social media sites.

As well, Bergstrom dealerships throughout the Fox Valley, Green Bay, Oshkosh & Madison held a special Oil Change Day offering discounted oil changes with a donation of \$15 or more to Make-A-Wish Wisconsin. Thank you, Bergstrom Automotive team, for making a BIG difference for local kids who are battling critical illnesses!



Shout out to Mariah for planning a wonderful Brewers baseball **Tailgate Fundraiser** helping us grant wishes! What a fun-filled day of making life-changing wishes come true.



The annual **Make Their Hearts Smile Truck Convoy** raised over \$21,000 to help give kids battling critical illnesses much needed hope through a wish come true. Thank you to everyone who participated.



The Nuthouse Bar in Fond du Lac held their annual Swiss Dart Tournament. This year, the event broke its own record and raised over \$8,000 to help grant wishes!



The **Wisconsin Timber Rattlers** held their annual Star Wars Night, complete with themed jerseys and Star Wars characters, plus an online jersey auction that raised \$5,000 to help grant a child's wish.



Thank you **Schmidt Custom Floors** for hosting another incredible golf outing to help make life-changing wishes come true! We're so grateful for your continued support!



REALTORS® Association of Northeast Wisconsin hosted a fun event at the Timber Rattlers Stadium where they raised funds for wishes through raffles, sponsorships, star sales and more!



Romenesko Developments held their amazing annual **Strikes for Charity** bowling event including raffles, inspiring speeches and much more! They raised \$24,575 to help grant four life-affirming wishes!



StoneRidge Piggy Wiggly stores located in De Pere, Kaukauna, Little Chute, Wautoma & Winneconne held another round up campaign and raised \$64,117.42 to help grant local kid's wishes.



Donor Spotlight WAUPUN TRUCK-N-SHOW



Now in its 34th year, the Waupun Truck-N-Show has averaged hundreds of trucks a year from all over the United States and Canada! Truckers come to show off their working-trucks that keep the trucking industry alive while forming life-long friendships with fellow drivers and enjoying the appreciation of thousands of spectators who stroll the grounds. All to help make life-changing wishes come true for local kids battling critical illnesses.

The event includes demonstrations, food, vendors, parades, nightly entertainment and more. Generous high bidders from transportation companies and truck drivers determine the lead positions in the parade, taking place on Saturday, August 12th at 3:00 p.m., which allows spectators to see the beautiful art demonstrations of dedicated drivers who prepare all year for the event.

This year's lead committee member, Nancy Kutschenreuter, says, "I couldn't imagine going through what these families have undergone. Since 1989, the work that we have put into this event is nothing compared to the immense joy that we have seen wishes bring these kids. Their smiles are priceless."

Throughout the years, this event has raised nearly \$500,000 to support the important Make-A-Wish mission!

THANK YOU, DONORS

Our sincere thanks to the donors listed below and on the following page, who made contributions and in-kind donations to Make-A-Wish Wisconsin between April 1 and June 30, 2023. We have made every effort to acknowledge these gifts correctly and completely. Please contact us and accept our apologies should any error or omission be discovered.

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\$50,000+

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 Debra Mikulski
 Delec Table
 Disney Theatrical Group
 Dollywood
 Eagle Park Brewing
 Five O' Clock Steakhouse
 Frankengeek Laboratories
 Friends of Nature
 Game Stop
 Great Wolf Lodge
 Hannah Lepper
 Hawaii Turtle Tours
 Hyatt Place Chicago
 Imperial Flavors
 Innovative Optique
 InterContinental-Chicago
 JCS Limo
 John Goeden Household
 Kendra Scott
 Knuckleheads
 L'Bri Pure N' Natural
 LeDarts Painting
 Lei Greetings
 Maggiano's Little Italy
 Marcus Performing Arts
 Center
 Milwaukee Ballet
 Mke Air & Water Show
 Monterey Bay Whale
 Watch
 Nickelodeon Universe
 Patio Pleasures & Spas
 Rocky Rocco Pizza And
 Pasta
 Sheraton Universal Hotel
 Sherwin Williams
 SpinLife
 Steinhafels Furniture
 Streets Of Lake Geneva
 The Brewhouse Inn
 Timbavati Wildlife Park
 Total Transportation
 Corporation
 Travis Wise
 Tri-City Glass, Inc.
 Troop 11196
 Kris VanLaanen & Family
 Von Stiehl Winery
 Vortex Optics
 The Zimmerman Family



MAKE AN IMPACT WELL INTO THE FUTURE

Your legacy can support the Make-A-Wish mission - not just today but for years to come. Many supporters of wish kids have included a gift to Make-A-Wish Wisconsin in their will or estate plans to make a lasting impact and at no cost today.

August is National Make-A-Will Month, a good reminder for us all to secure our futures. Did you know that you can also continue to impact children with critical illnesses at the same time? Here is how two friends made a difference, together.

Mary Shea was a successful, creative and hard-working sales manager who was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. She always loved helping charities, supporting many different causes, doing dozens of walks and runs over the years. Mary wanted her legacy to make a difference, and she and her friend Margie worked together to make important decisions about her planning for the future.

Mary's friend Margie said, "It was important to Mary that she help children and families who are experiencing challenging and difficult situations. She also wanted to be sure that she was supporting organizations of integrity that are well run and that are utilizing as much of their funding as possible for their mission. We did our homework and found that Make-A-Wish was just what we were looking for."

When Mary passed away, she left a generous estate gift to Make-A-Wish Wisconsin. And Margie is working to ensure Mary's legacy lives on. A Wishes Forever Endowment Fund in Mary's memory is being created so that a wish can be granted each year in perpetuity.



Thanks to Mary's gift and Margie's support, the lives of hundreds of wish kids and their families will be deeply impacted through the hope that comes from a wish come true.

To create your legacy this month, we invite you to use FreeWill: an online estate planning tool that makes it 100% free to write your will and designate Make-A-Wish Wisconsin as a beneficiary. This online resource allows you to create your will in just 20 minutes. Simply visit wish.org/wisconsin/legacygiving today.

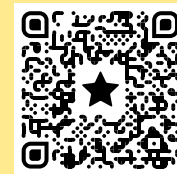
For more information about the Wishes Forever Endowment Program, please contact Wendy Cozzens, VP of Philanthropy at wcozzens@wisconsin.wish.org.

WALK FOR WISHES® MILWAUKEE

Join us for Walk For Wishes, presented by Luxaire Heating & Air Conditioning in Milwaukee at the SOUTH gate of the Summerfest Grounds on Saturday, September 9.

Register for FREE today at wish.org/wisconsin/mkewalk.

- Kids' Dash – 8:45 a.m.
- Walk start – 9:00 a.m.
- After Party – 9:15 a.m. featuring the Mission River Band, food trucks, family fun, closing ceremonies and more.
- All Walk for Wishes attendees will receive a wristband for **free admission to Festa Italiana** (valid on Saturday, Sept 9 only).



SHOPPING FOR WISHES

While this year's Golf for Wishes being held September 18 in Lake Geneva is sold-out, we can still use your help. We're looking for auction items to further our funds for wishes and have made it easy with an Amazon shopping list.

Please visit wish.org/wisconsin/2023golfauction and consider donating one of the items listed there. You can have them shipped directly to the Chapter Office in Wauwatosa. Thank you for your help.



THE WISH LIST

Wishes Granted
April 1 - June 30, 2023

...to have an Adaptive Bike

Ruby, 8
Wish Granters: Jennifer Petersen, Kayla Cywinski & Tacy DeRouin

...to have a Backyard makeover

Cassandra, 8
Wish Granters: Daniel Rogan, Jamie Prost & Larry Levy

...to have Bedroom Furniture

Raven, 16
Wish Granters: Daniel Giles & Candace Rae Richter

...to have a Camper

Rayne, 4
Wish Granters: Megan & Jeremy Kox

Quinton, 6
Wish Granters: Amanda Burton & Thomas Bauer

Tytus, 6
Wish Granters: Kimberly James, Thomas Bauer & Shelly Kadow

Alexandria, 14
Wish Granters: Joelle Rosen & Michele Schaeetz

Bennett, 6
Wish Granters: Dale Johnson, Kevin Johnson, Candace Richter & Lorna Whalen

Evelina, 7
Wish Granters: Amanda Burton & Shelby Robbins

Liam, 8
Wish Granters: Patricia Miller & James Corona

...to go to Chicago

Tesla, 5
Wish Granters: Sherry McKee & James Corona

...to go to the Walt Disney World® Resort

Benedict, 3
Wish Granters: Linda Ryfinski & Corinne Kennedy

Adelyn, 4
Wish Granters: Craig & Paula Hokanson

Greyson, 4
Wish Granters: Jack Kile & Toni Palmer

Xavier, 4
Wish Granters: Larry Levy, Daniel Rogan & Courtney Wisniewski

CeMyah, 5
Wish Granters: Patti Gorsky & Mickey Pollack

Armarionna, 6
Wish Granters: Ruthann Behrendt, Larry Levy, Amanda Mutchler & Lauren Hannes

Autumn, 6
Wish Granters: Holly De Long & Lisa Yursis

Ava, 6
Wish Granters: Claire Ruggiero & Rachel Langer

Emreigh, 6
Wish Granters: Joseph & Kathy Bartel, Jeanette Dickinson and Sandra Melby

Hunter, 6
Wish Granters: Angela Elliott & Cheryl Anderson

Jaishon, 6
Wish Granters: Ellen Stark & Janice Holling

Raina, 6
Wish Granters: Tammy Grace & Janice Holling

Sincere, 6
Wish Granters: Leslie Kania & Angela Elliott

Aidan, 7
Wish Granters: Evelyn Greenberger and Rodney & Dee Dee Ugent

Alyssa, 7
Wish Granters: Jaime Mueller & Claire Ruggiero

Cameron, 7
Wish Granters: Tracey Dorsey & Kelly Wagner

Zechariah, 7
Wish Granters: Jeremy & Megan Kox

Grace, 8
Wish Granter: Kathy Woolford

Luca, 8
Wish Granters: Susan & Stephen Shea

Meiyee, 8
Wish Granters: Carrie Cookson & Linette Britt

Jean, 9
Wish Granters: Jo Marchionda & Gail Fleury

Amelia, 10
Wish Granters: Brenda Fritz & Jill Cornell

Caelyb, 10
Wish Granters: TerryLynn Johnson & Mary Pitzen

Gavin, 10
Wish Granters: Claire Ruggiero & James Corona

Arianna, 12
Wish Granters: Candace Richter & Daniel Giles

Jaretzy, 12
Wish Granters: Jan Berkholtz & Kelly Burk

Monet, 12
Wish Granters: Lisa Rice & Patricia LePak

Rose, 16
Wish Granters: Michele Fritsch, Cheryl Follett, Kristin Paul & Lisa Rice

Carlos, 17
Wish Granters: Kathy Woolford & Ronna Monahan

Lesha, 4
Wish Granters: Christina Reschke, Faith Horn, Kristin Paul & Kathryn Finley

Cree, 3
Wish Granters: Rachel Geittmann, Laurie Wetterau & Angela Perez

Kelab, 6
Wish Granters: Kristin Enea & Mariah Tremain

Khloe, 6
Wish Granters: Jeanna Stiadle & Evan Pagel

Chance, 14
Wish Granters: Holly De Long & Laura Kuehl

...to go to the Walt Disney World® Resort and LEGOLAND

Amyr, 12
Wish Granters: John Kokalj & Larry Levy

...to go to the Walt Disney World® Resort and Universal Orlando

Exavier, 8
Wish Granters: Barbara Pahlow & Thomas Bauer

...to have a Fenced-in Yard

Harper, 5
Wish Granters: James Corona & Janice Holling

I wish to have a fishing boat

Evan, 11
Wish Granters: Lynn Wagner & Kelly Durham

...to go to the Florida Keys

Quentin, 4
Wish Granters: Lori Barry & Ronna Monahan

Kaylee, 17
Wish Granters: Jamie Prost & Christie Lynn Bartzen

Andy, 18
Wish Granters: Barbara Pahlow, Larry Levy & James Corona

Laina, 18
Wish Granters: Shelly Kadow, Colleen Leahy & Carley Hilt

...to go to Florida Theme Parks

Ashley, 8
Wish Granters: Patricia Miller & Sunny Scott

...to go to a Formula 1 Race

Caden, 19
Wish Granters: James Corona, Karen Wolff & Brianna Hansen

...to have a Gaming PC

Jadyn, 17
Wish Granters: Peggy Van Grinsven & Gail Fleury

...to have a Gaming Setup

Jeffrey, 7
Wish Granters: Roberta Sarow & Kaelyn Martin

...to go to Hawaii

Ariel, 14
Wish Granters: Amanda Mutchler, Lauren Hannes, Kristin Paul & Kathryn Finley

Ava, 14
Wish Granters: Lisa Rice and Laurie Wetterau

Wesley, 14
Wish Granters: Kathy & Joseph Bartel



Special thanks to The Walt Disney Company for providing complimentary admission and special perks for every family who experiences a Disney wish.

I wish to have a fishing boat

WISHING FOR FISHING

Evan is your typical, always-on-the-go, video-game-playing, Sour Patch Kid-eating, outdoors-loving, 11-year-old kid. Except, unlike most kids, Evan battles a medulloblastoma, a malignant brain tumor that arises in the cerebellum, a part of the brain located at the base of the skull.

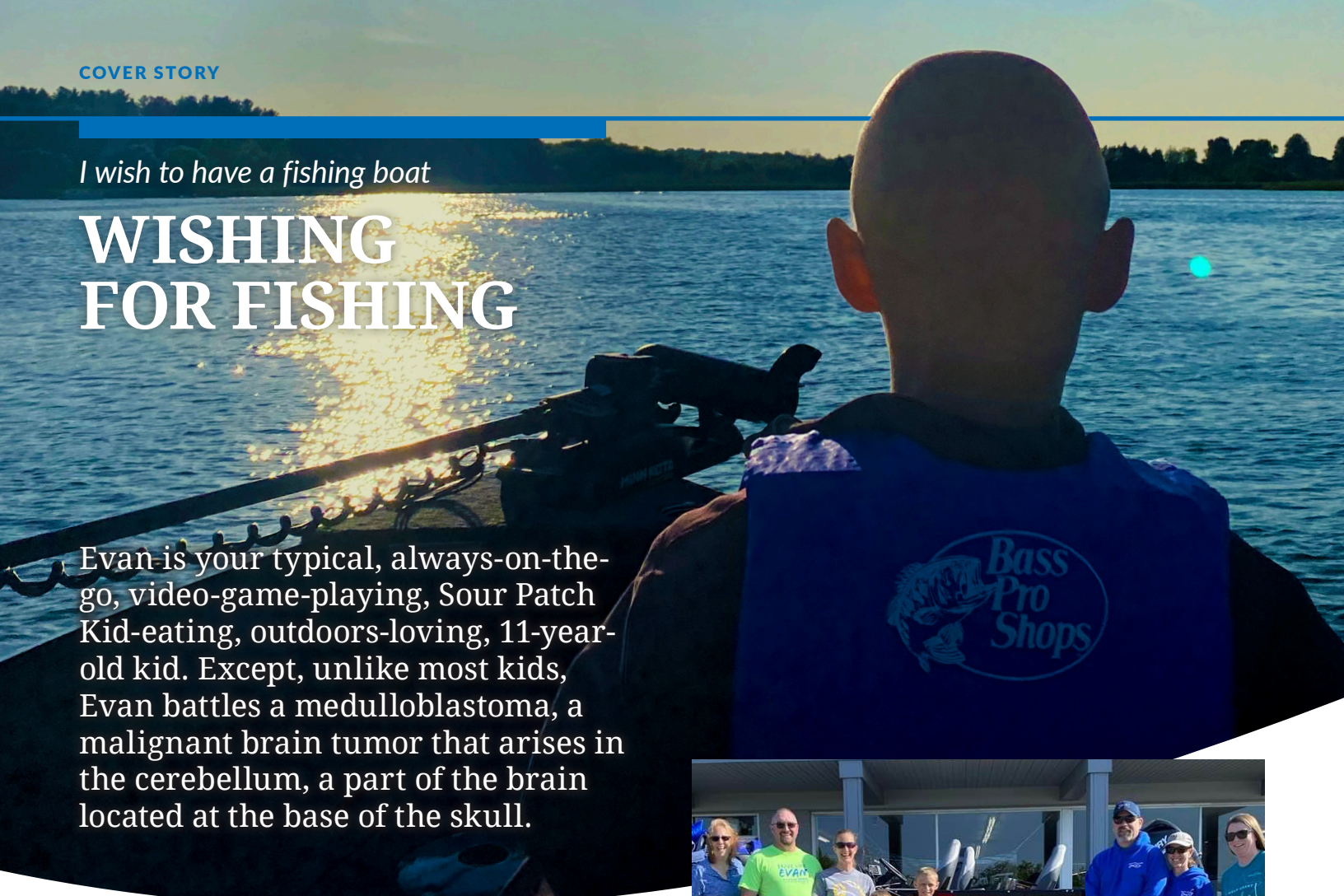
During his time at UW Health American Family Children's Hospital, Evan was referred to Make-A-Wish Wisconsin, and it didn't take him long to decide on his wish: a boat to go fishing on. Evan's mom, Chelsie, had this to share about his wish:

"Evan has been doing relatively well during his chemotherapy treatments but the last cycle really knocked him down for awhile. It took about two weeks after the wish reveal before he could actually use the boat and one of the reasons was treatment and recovery.

The day we finally got him out on the water he had spent all day on the couch. When my husband got home from work that day he asked Evan if we should go out on the boat. Evan got a huge smile on his face immediately and finally perked up. We were only on the water for an hour but his energy level and state of mind improved immensely! He kept saying how much he loved the boat and how amazing it was.

I asked Evan if getting this boat made it worth having cancer. He immediately said, "No, but it sure makes it easier and it's nice to have something to look forward to after treatments."

Wish Granters: Lynn Wagner & Kelly Durham



THE WISH LIST

Wishes Granted
April 1 - June 30, 2023

Danielle, 17

Wish Granters: Craig & Paula Hokanson

Kenia, 19

Wish Granters: Lynn Graening & Diana Moreno

...to go on a LEGO Shopping Spree in Orlando, FL

Gavyn, 12

Wish Granters: Susan Lamprich & Jennifer DeBruin

...to go to Los Angeles, CA

Braedyn, 15

Wish Granters: Sandy Schultz & Wendy Behling

...to go to Mall of America

Clayton, 6

Wish Granters: Mayme Hoffman & Michele Bergstrom

Nora, 8

Wish Granters: Kriste Simonson & Peggy Van Grinsven

Alice, 9

Wish Granters: Claire Ruggiero, Julie Vanlaanen & Lisa Yursis

Ariel, 13

Wish Granters: Kelly Johnson and Kristen & Jeff Hurt

Mariah, 16

Wish Granters: Miranda Metzler, Claire Ruggiero, Larry Levy & Shannon Seymer-Tabaska

Shacara, 18

Wish Granters: Larry Levy & Daniel Rogan

...to go to New York City

Luke, 19

Wish Granters: Janet Sartori & Patricia Cosgrove

...to have a New York City Ghostbusters Experience

Douglas, 9

Wish Granters: Patricia Adams and Scott & Michelle Thompson

...to have an Online Shopping Spree

Kara, 11

Wish Granters: Thomas Bauer & Amanda Burton

Caden, 14

Wish Granter: Ashley Thomas

...to have a Playhouse

Adalyn, 5

Wish Granters: Julie Carr, Sara Suehs & Shelby Robbins

Lydia, 7

Wish Granters: Courtney Nachreiner & Maggie Walters

Sophia, 10

Wish Granters: Marie Waddell & Holly De Long

Piper, 13

Wish Granters: Ashley Thomas & Jan Berkholtz

...to have a Playroom

Henry, 4

Wish Granters: Jane Foner & Miranda Metzler

...to have a Playset

Amettrious, 3

Wish Granters: Jenna Ausloos, Sherry Miracle, Angela Perez & Dana Mejic

Naomi, 15

Wish Granters: Michele Schaetz & Patricia Adams

...to have a Pontoon Boat

Gracelynn, 3

Wish Granters: Torrey Calkins & Carmen Bruss

Lennon, 3

Wish Granters: Rachel Geittmann & Brianna Hansen

Finley, 3

Wish Granters: Peggy Van Grinsven, Sandy Ann Yost & Julie Carr

Ava, 7

Wish Granters: Peggy Van Grinsven, Claire Ruggiero & Gail Fleury

...to go to San Diego, CA

Sean, 6

Wish Granters: Daniel Giles & Kim Christensen

...to go to Sarasota, FL

Presley, 17

Wish Granters: Joy Hearden, Michelle Schoenfeld, Juli Moen, Ellen Stark, Elizabeth Sobczak & Emily Mayer

...to go on a Ski Trip in Colorado

Lucien, 16

Wish Granters: Lisa Yursis & Julie Vanlaanen

...to have a Snap-on Shopping Spree

Christopher, 19

Wish Granters: Brianna Hansen & James Corona

...to have a Swimming Pool

Gabriel, 12

Wish Granters: Trent & Linda Zellmer

...to have a Swimming Pool with Lift

Emery, 4

Wish Granters: Dilya St. Louis, Jennifer Mrdutt & Daniel Giles

...to go to a Taylor Swift Concert

Camille, 16

Wish Granters: Julie Carr, Kristen Wetzel & Doris Mertens

...to go on a Train Ride to the Cleveland Zoo

Ashelynn, 4

Wish Granters: Daniel Rogan & Dana Mejic

...to have a UTV

Isiac, 7

Wish Granters: Megan Davis-Rosandich & Michelle Friemoth

Kingston, 15

Wish Granters: Brittney Aldous & Casey Kothbauer

Reid, 17

Wish Granters: Janelle & Ken Disher

...to go on a Wisconsin Zoo Road Trip

Luke, 18

Wish Granters: Corinne Kennedy, Linda Ryfinski, Kimberly James & Daniel Giles

...to go to Dollywood

Reef, 13

Wish Granters: Michelle Kadow & Kristen Wetzel

...to go to Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium

Sookie, 8

Wish Granters: Peggy Van Grinsven, Cassidy Flanders & Kriste Simonson



I wish to go to Mall of America

Clayton, 6
liver disorder



MAKE-A-WISH VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

Behind every wish are volunteers who donate their time and talents to make the impossible possible. The following volunteers have gone a step beyond:

WHO GETS A WISH?

A child with a critical illness who has reached the age of 2½ and is younger than 18 at the time of referral and has not received a wish from any other wish granting organization is potentially eligible for a wish from Make-A-Wish Wisconsin.

After a child is referred, Make-A-Wish will work with the treating physician to determine the child's eligibility for a wish, i.e. suffering from a progressive, degenerative or malignant condition currently placing the child's life in jeopardy.

These are the only criteria used to determine a child's eligibility.

If you or your child meets all of the above qualifications, we invite you to begin the process today by contacting the Make-A-Wish Wisconsin office at 800.236.WISH (9474), or refer online at wish.org/refer.

Together, we create life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses. With help from a thriving community of donors, medical professionals and volunteers, we are working toward granting the one true wish of every medically-qualified child!

Above: This past May, Lennon's wish to have a pontoon boat came true.



APRIL 2023

SHELBY ROBBINS

Shelby has been volunteering with Make-A-Wish Wisconsin since 2015. She says she has learned that, "Volunteering with Make-A-Wish has been eye opening from the beginning. Families are in some of the toughest seasons of life but can see the bright side and make the most out of a challenging time."



MAY 2023

KRISTE SIMONSON

Kriste has been volunteering with Make-A-Wish Wisconsin for over 8 years. She says of volunteering, "I've learned many things from being a Make-A-Wish volunteer but the thing that stands out most is that there are a lot of generous, caring people in the world."



JUNE 2023

LINETTE BRITT

For over 11 years, Linette has been volunteering with Make-A-Wish Wisconsin. She says of wish granting, "My favorite part is the wish delivery – the planning, details and all the meaningful touches that go into it. I also love seeing the excitement in each child's face as their wish approaches and hearing after the wish about how it has made such a big impact in their lives. I am proud to be a small piece of that!"

VOLUNTEER MILESTONES

10 YEARS

Carrie Cookson

5 YEARS

Jessica Uitenbroek

Lynn Wagner



¿CONOCE A ALGUIEN BILINGÜE?

¡Siempre estamos buscando más interpretes! Si usted conoce a alguien bilingüe que le gustaría ayudar a cumplir deseos, por favor comuníquese con nuestra Gerente de Voluntarios, Ali Schilz al 800.236.WISH (9474) o aschilz@wisconsin.wish.org.

MEDICAL SPOTLIGHT



Cory Sieburg
Nurse Practitioner
American Family Children's Hospital

Describe your work in a few words.

I am a nurse practitioner in the Pediatric Neuromuscular Clinic, where we diagnose and treat children with rare, complex and sometimes fatal neurologic diseases. Make-A-Wish holds a very special place in my heart and I use this to provide my patients as well as their families, an opportunity to experience a bit of magic, joy and hope.

Describe the impact a wish can have.

Make-A-Wish has provided moments of hope and joy at otherwise dark and unpredictable times for so many of my patients and families. It offers a way for families, friends, and patients to reconnect and set aside their health conditions to do something that feels attainable. The experience is a boost to their emotional and mental health, all of which play into their overall conditions. The experience is not limited to the receipt of the wish, but something that lasts a lifetime and a memory that is shared forever.



REFER A CHILD TODAY

Make-A-Wish® relies on referrals from caring individuals to reach more kids with critical illnesses each year. Learn more about wish eligibility, who can make a referral and how the process works at [wish.org/refer](https://www.wish.org/refer).

Above: Deakin's wish to go to the Walt Disney World® Resort came true this past June.

MAKE-A-WISH® REFERRAL SOURCES

Our thanks to those who referred children with wishes granted between April 1 and June 30, 2023:

Children's Wisconsin

Sheila Dodds MSW; Michelle Honeck, MSW; Gina Lewis, NP; Dr. Rebecca Steuart, MD; Dr. Todd M. Gudausky, MD; Stacy Boyce, MSW; Lisa Neidhold, RN; Dr. Elizabeth Moberg-Wolff, MD; Dr. Carrie Torkilson, MD; Robin Kostroski, MSW; Rose Ackmann, RN; Michele Frommelt, MD; Dr. Julie Noe, MD; Cindy Dunst, MSW

HSHS St. Vincent's Children's Hospital

Lauren Vanden Heuvel, CCLS; Caitlin Kapp, CCLS; Dr. Cathy Long, MD

M Health Fairview Masonic Children's Hospital

Rhea Sayotovich, MSW

Marshfield Medical Center Medical Office

Dr. Hema Murali, MD

Prevea Health

Dr. Jennifer Murphy, MD

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Christen Long, LCSW

UW Health American Family Children's Hospital

Kim Sue Lamster, MSW; Dr. Margo Hoover-Regan, MD; Dr. Katryn Furuya, MD; Ms. Joyce Kilgore-Carlin, MSW; Dr. Jennifer Kwon, MD; Solomy Ntambi, MSW; Julie Strang, MSW; Jill Bowdish, SW; Dr. Margo Hoover-Regan, MD; Dr. Amy Peterson, MD



EMERGING LEADERS

We're seeking dynamic emerging leaders with diverse interests, backgrounds and professions who are passionate about being active and philanthropic members of their community to join Wishmakers of Wisconsin – Milwaukee and Northeast Wisconsin. Together, this group grants more than 20 wishes each year through fundraising events and campaigns.

If you or someone you know is an emerging leader in one of these markets, please reach out to Kelsey at krice@wisconsin.wish.org for more information.

IN HONOR AND MEMORY

Our sincere thanks to everyone who gave gifts between April 1 and June 30, 2023 in honor or memory of the people and businesses listed below. We have made every effort to acknowledge these gifts correctly and completely. Please contact us and accept our apologies should any error or omission be discovered.

IN HONOR OF...

501st Legion Wisconsin
Garrison
Brother Bill D
Jeffrey Derus
Mr and Mrs Donald
Goldweitzer
Dr. Michael Gordon
Patti Gorsky
Dee Ann Keip
Ethan Kurtz
Rechel Leva
Sophia Orsi
Ella Schneyer's Graduation
from High School
Alexander Schultz
Xander Sell
Dian Sobel
Thomas Stark
Austin Trzebiatowski

IN MEMORY OF...

Natasha Abts
Jonathan James Bakken
Albert and Minnie Eckstein
Chuck Ehemann
Charles Erickson
Hannah Goman
Karen Ann Goodreau
Ronald Greshbach
Robin Guiden
Nicole Hirsch
Mark Huber
Sara Knezic
Clem and Clar La Chapelle
and Paul West
Marilyn Koebke Martin
David Mews
Stuart Peckerman
Jillian Quandt
Joyce Russell

Robert Sanderson
Agatha Schild
Elizabeth Schilling
Catherine Schroeder
Ruth Schultz
Sue Solmor
Zachary Sprader
Richard Strauss
Logan Andrew Templeman
Clara Vander Kelen
Mary Walker
Patricia Weber
Richard Welch
Katie Wilkinson
Kalen Will

Make a Gift in Honor or Memory today at wish.org/wisconsin/donate.



WISH ART CORNER

16-year-old Lucien battles congenital heart disease. His wish was to go on a Colorado ski trip, and he drew this picture to share with everyone.

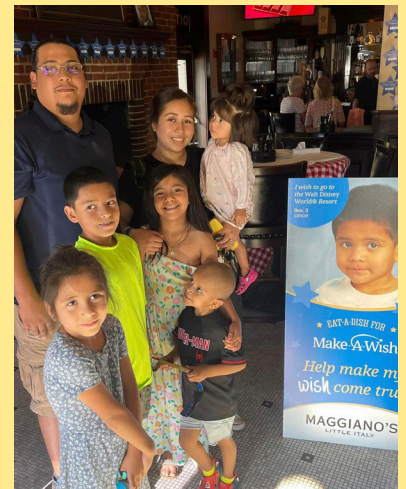
If you are a wish kid, a wish sibling, a wish parent or ANYONE who has been inspired by a special wish experience, we want to see your art!

Send your wish-inspired artwork to the Make-A-Wish Wisconsin Chapter Office (WISH ART CORNER, 11020 W. Plank Court, Suite 200, Wauwatosa, WI 53226), or share it online at facebook.com/wisconsinwish.

GRAZIE, MAGGIANO'S!

This summer, Maggiano's Little Italy once again hosted their Eat-A-Dish for Make-A-Wish campaign across the country, raising funds to help grant wishes. In Wisconsin, the Maggiano's at Mayfair Mall raised enough funds to help grant Iker's wish to go to the *Walt Disney World*® Resort.

Maggiano's hosted Iker and his family for dinner in early August, celebrating this very special boy. Thank you to everyone who purchased stars and participated in the promotion.





WISH SPONSORS

Thank you to the following sponsors who contributed at least \$4,000 or more to sponsor the wishes granted between April 1 and June 30, 2023.

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|
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Company
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Bobby's Bar
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System
Deena Hatch Foundation
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Foundation Inc. -
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Heidi Schneider
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Kaden's Wish, Inc.
Karen J. Glanert
Charitable Trust
Kesslers Diamonds
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Disney Wish Fund
Ladish Company
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Larry & Kathy Gentine
Louie & Paula Gentine
Louis & Michele Gentine
Luxaire Heating & Air
Conditioning
Madison Pediatric Dental
& Orthodontics
Make Their Hearts Smile
Truck Convoy
Marlene Lee
Mary Beth Straka
Mary Ellen Stanek
Mary Hensgen
Men with a Purpose
Merkel Foundation, Inc.
Michael & Ellen
Schlossmann
Michael & Karen Polsky
Michael Best & Friedrich
LLP
Michael Pregont
Mike & Bridget Zimmerman
Milwaukee Bucks | Mukwonago for Wishes
Nast Family Foundation,
Inc.
Northwestern Mutual
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Fund
Payton Alexander Golf
Outing
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Peter & Murissa Katz-
Give BIG Green Bay
Potawatomi Hotel &
Casino
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Richard Kessler
Robert Mueller
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Inc.
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Foundation, Inc.
Surewood Forest Wishes
for Kids | Team SARAH Strong
The Capital Group
The Jendusa Family
The Learning Experience
- Wisconsin
The Peter J. Seippel
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VJS Construction Services
Warren & Ann Pierson
Wheels for Wishes
Wisconsin Counties
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Wisconsin Public Service
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Wisconsin Underground
Contractors
Association, Inc.
Wishmakers of Wisconsin
- Milwaukee
WIXX 101
Wixon Inc. Golf Outing
Women's Council of
Realtors Wisconsin
Y100
Yacht Blast for Kids
Yellow Whistles for Greg |
|---|---|---|---|--|

WE REMEMBER

This issue of Wishful Thinking is dedicated to the following wish kids, who have passed:

- | | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| ★ <i>Nicolas</i> | ★ <i>Isaiah</i> | ★ <i>Abby</i> | ★ <i>Brianna</i> |
| ★ <i>Andrew</i> | ★ <i>Jetaime</i> | ★ <i>Joseph</i> | ★ <i>Hadley</i> |

Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Wisconsin
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Inside this Issue:

Gourmet Wishes – Join us for a night of indulgence while making wishes come true.

Donor Spotlight – For 34 years this annual event has raised nearly \$500,000 for life-changing wishes.

Further Your Legacy – Your legacy can support wish kids not just today but for years to come.

Wishing For Fishing – Evan's wish to have a fishing boat brings renewed strength and joy.



Help keep our mailing list current!

Report address changes, receipt of multiple copies or cancellations at info@wisconsin.wish.org or 800.236.WISH (9474).

TRIPS THAT Transform

More than 500 kids are waiting right now for a life-changing wish and you can ensure they don't have to wait any longer than necessary.

Grab your frequent flier number (found on your statement) and visit wish.org/wisconsin/miles to donate your unused Delta, United, JetBlue or American Airlines miles today! If you have questions regarding an airline miles donation, feel free to call 262-781-4445.

COMING SOON: Wishes in Flight Telethon, October 2023, 9:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. on FOX6 News in Milwaukee.

American Airlines: 800.882.8880 • JetBlue: 800.JET.BLUE
United Airlines: 800.421.4655 • Delta SkyMiles: 800.323.2323

*I wish to go
to Hawaii*

Wesley, 14
congenital heart
disease

