

# **Opportunity Profile**

## Executive Search for: Chief Executive Officer



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#### **ABOUT MAKE-A-WISH**

#### "A wish experience can be a game-changer for a child with critical illness."

For children diagnosed with critical illnesses, a wish come true can be a crucial turning point in their lives. A wish can be that spark that helps these children believe that anything is possible and gives them the strength to fight harder against their illnesses. This impact is why Make-A-Wish Orange County and Inland Empire (OCIE) is driven to make every one of these wishes come true.

The inspiration and vision for Make-A-Wish began in Phoenix, Arizona in 1980 when a community came together for Christopher James Greicius, a 7-year-old boy battling leukemia, whose wish was to be a police officer. Receiving a custom-tailored uniform, a motorcycle helmet, and his very own battery-operated motorbike, the magic of that one wish created a movement. Today, Make-A-Wish has granted hundreds of thousands of life-changing wishes to children with critical illnesses across the U.S. and its territories.

Make-A-Wish OCIE carries out its impactful work with a dedicated staff of 12. The Chapter partners with community volunteers to deliver its programs and is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. Across the region, the chapter works to grant approximately 200 life-changing wishes each year.





#### **ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITY**

Make-A-Wish OCIE, one of the nation's most recognized nonprofits seeks a dynamic and inspiring Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to successfully guide the Chapter into the future. With a dedicated staff, a strong board, and an engaged volunteer force, the selected candidate will be well-positioned to make a significant mission impact. This is an ideal position for a highly relational, empathetic, and mission-driven leader with a track record of achievement and results.

The relevant experience and skills to effectively carry out the key accountabilities of the position include Organizational Leadership, Fundraising & Development, Strategic Vision & Execution, Board Engagement & Effectiveness, Financial & Operational Oversight, Brand Advancement, and Mission Delivery & Non-Profit DNA.





#### **KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES**

#### **Organizational Leadership**

Design the optimal organizational structure, develop and retain a passionate and effective team, and build a culture of trust, cohesiveness, accountability, and engagement.

#### **Strategic Vision and Execution**

Create and implement a clear and concise short and mid-term strategic plan to increase revenue, grant more wishes, and enhance organizational culture.

#### **Fundraising & Development**

Design and execute the development plan and actively fundraise to increase revenue through enhanced relationships with donors, corporate sponsors, funders, and community partners.

#### **Board Engagement & Effectiveness**

In partnership with the board chair, recruit, retain, and engage a diverse and effective Board of Directors and Committees, leverage their strengths to advance the mission, and provide the transparency necessary for effective governance.





#### **KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES**

#### **Brand Advancement**

Intentionally enhance stakeholder relationships and commitment to Make-A-Wish while increasing brand awareness and engagement through effective messaging, community outreach, relationshipbuilding, partnership collaboration, and purposeful calls-to-action.

#### **Financial & Operational Oversight**

Implement a process to ensure the organization has the proper financial oversight, internal controls, forecasting, and transparent reporting to maintain and improve the fiscal health of the Chapter.

#### **Mission Delivery & Non-Profit DNA**

Inspire staff, volunteers, and donors by authentically embodying the mission and ethos of the organization.





#### KEY QUALIFICATIONS & ATTRIBUTES

## The Board of Directors sees the ideal candidate for CEO matching as many of the following aspects as possible:

- Passion for, and commitment to, the Make-A-Wish mission
- Executive or management experience at a respected nonprofit or public institution, or significant nonprofit experience developed through voluntary service in the sector
  - While previous nonprofit CEO experience is highly desirable, individuals with a strong record of performance are encouraged to apply
- Demonstrated results in major gift cultivation and solicitation, and working knowledge of fundraising principles as they impact an organization
- Exceptional leadership and communication skills, including a proven track record in leading and growing organizations
- Has worked closely and positively with governing/fundraising boards and effectively developed and strengthened those boards
- Is a consensus builder, team builder, and a coach when working with staff and volunteers
- Attracts and retains top talent and builds strong and enduring relationships



#### **KEY QUALIFICATIONS & ATTRIBUTES**

#### (Continued)

- Possesses working knowledge of the legal, fiscal, and regulatory environment in which a nonprofit operates
- Strong business and budget management skills
- Strategic thinker who can also plan and execute short-term objectives in pursuit of a long-term vision and create action plans that yield results
- Has personal ethics and integrity that reflect positively on the mission and the organization, is a passionate and convincing champion for the mission, and is involved and respected in the community
- Is able to work collegially within the federated model of Make-A-Wish America
- Committed to championing diversity, equity, and inclusion, fostering an organization that is accessible and welcoming
- Relationships and knowledge of communities across the region is strongly preferred
- Bachelor's degree required, with an advanced degree preferred



#### APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCESS

### Apply

- Interested candidates complete the online application:
  - Apply CEO Make-A-Wish OCIE
- Upload your resume and cover letter.
- If you are interested in the position, please inquire as soon as possible.

#### **Initial Screening**

• A Sagency Search Consultant may schedule an initial 15-20 minute phone call with qualified applicants.

#### **Sagency Interview**

• A Sagency Search Consultant will schedule a 60-minute interview with specific candidates.

#### **Online Assessment**

• After this initial interview process with Sagency, qualified candidates may be asked to complete an online assessment.

#### **Client Interviews**

• First-round interviews with Make-A-Wish.

*If you are interested, please submit your resume as soon as possible. Thank you for your interest in this position.* 

