

Wishes



Make-A-Wish Illinois granted a record-breaking 790 wishes in fiscal year 2024. Each wish was a unique experience, impacting a child's outlook on their life with the incredible power of joy and hope. Many of the wishes were delayed from previous years due to the pandemic.

Thanks to our community of supporters, Make-A-Wish Illinois has granted more than 18,000 wishes since being founded locally in 1985.

790

children received life-changing wishes

1,000

dedicated volunteers across Illinois

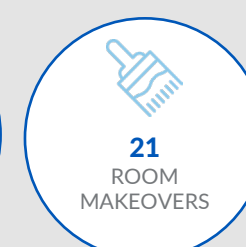
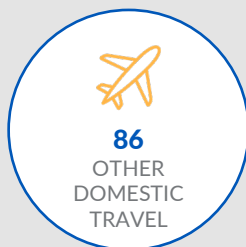
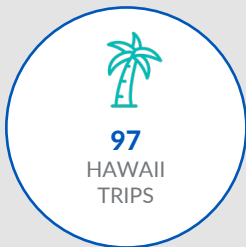
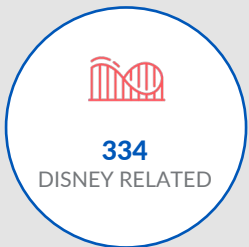
1,300

children in the wish planning pipeline

715

children referred by medical providers and families

MOST POPULAR WISH TYPES THIS FISCAL YEAR



Looking Ahead

In 2025, Make-A-Wish Illinois will build capacity for an expected increase in the number of children who will need wishes in the coming years. With a plan to grant more than 700 wishes over the next year, and more per year in each future year, these areas of focus will help prepare for expected growth while maintaining high-quality wish experiences.



INVITE more WishMakers into our mission including more volunteers, donors, referral sources, businesses, employees in companies we work with, and many more.



BUILD our mix of fundraising opportunities so everyone can find a way to support Make-A-Wish that aligns with their own personal values, goals and abilities.



INVEST in our workforce of staff and volunteers, technology and systems to support the expansion of expected work in future years.

