

*I wish to have  
a horse*

Kinsley, 8  
cancer



2023-2024  
**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

140 Wishes Granted  
The New Idaho Record

**Make-A-Wish**  
IDAHO

[idaho.wish.org](http://idaho.wish.org)

# Our People

## Staff

Janie Best, President and CEO

Mo Bagley, Senior Wish Coordinator

Renee Beal, Director of Operations

Ana Conde, Wish Coordinator

Matt Dahlgran, Director of Mission Delivery

Michelle John, Regional Manager (North Idaho)

Josh Peterson, Communications Manager

Kaitlyn Picard, Special Events Coordinator

Andrea Sanders, Chief Development Officer

Julie Thomas, Regional Director (East Idaho)

## Board of Directors

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Grant Porter, Vice Chair - Bluebird Home Loans

Neil Gulley, Treasurer - CBIP Services

Jason Hover, Secretary - InfoStrategy Consulting

Scott Alexander, Alexander Orthodontics

Tim Brown, Wells Fargo

Travis Gerhard, TMG Financial Group

Wendi Lete, Kount

Mark McGuire, Retired

Breanne Simplot, J.R. Simplot Company

Vicki White, Retired

Becki Woodbury, CLM Marketing and Advertising

## The Mission

Together, we create life-changing wishes  
for children with critical illnesses



Make-A-Wish® has once again been recognized as the #1 Most Trusted Nonprofit Operating Locally Across 50 States based on Morning Consult polling data.

## Connect with us

For all the latest news about Idaho wishes and events.



[facebook.com/MakeAWishIdaho](https://facebook.com/MakeAWishIdaho)



[instagram.com/maw\\_idaho](https://instagram.com/maw_idaho)



[linkedin.com/company/make-a-wish-idaho](https://linkedin.com/company/make-a-wish-idaho)



[youtube.com/@MakeAWishIdaho](https://youtube.com/@MakeAWishIdaho)



[twitter.com/MakeAWish\\_Idaho](https://twitter.com/MakeAWish_Idaho)

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208-345-9474

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362 N. Herborn Place

Post Falls, ID 82854

208-342-8878



**JANIE BEST**  
**PRESIDENT AND CEO**

To our incredible Make-A-Wish® Idaho supporters, your generosity and compassion continue to amaze us. Thanks to your unwavering commitment, we're able to grant life-changing wishes to children with critical illnesses across our state.

Every dollar donated, every volunteer hour given, and every act of kindness fuels our mission to bring hope, strength, and joy to these courageous kids and their families. Your support is the heart of Make-A-Wish Idaho, and we are deeply grateful for your partnership in making wishes come true.



**ABBY BLACK**  
**BOARD CHAIR**

We are deeply grateful to have granted 140 wishes, setting a new record. The unwavering support from individuals, families, and organizations means the world to us.

Your generosity directly impacts the lives of children battling critical illnesses, allowing us to continue fulfilling their wishes. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of kids in Idaho.

**Support the  
Make-A-Wish Idaho  
Mission**

**(EIN): 82-0408150**



# WISHES BY TYPE

## DISNEY WISHES



70

## SHOPPING SPREES



21

## TRAVEL WISHES



17

## HAWAII WISHES



16

## WISHES TO MEET



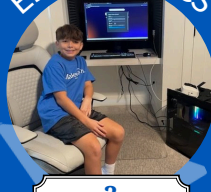
5

## PARTY/HOME IMPROVEMENT



4

## ELECTRONICS



3

## ANIMAL WISHES



1

## HOT TUB WISHES



1

## TO BE A VIDEO GAME DESIGNER



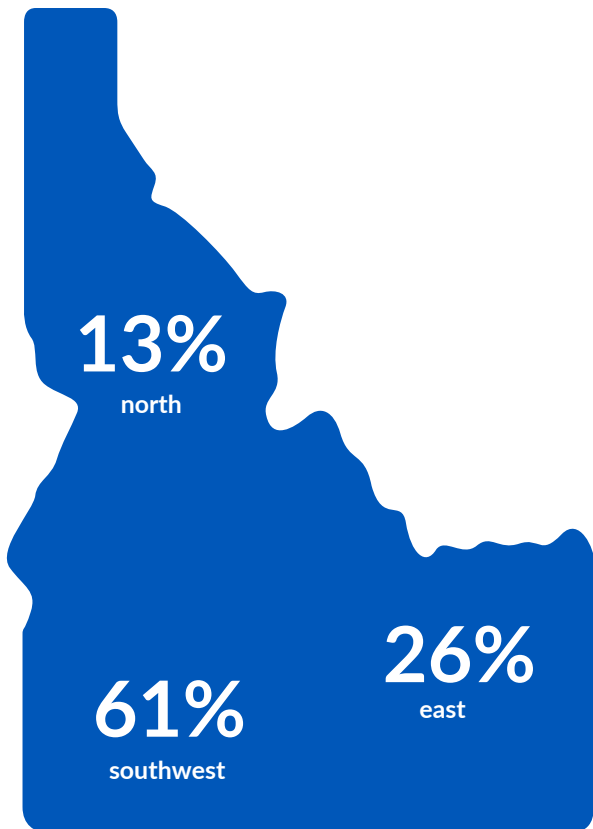
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## POOL WISHES



1

## WISHES BY REGION



## WISHES BY CATEGORY



to go

73%



to have

23%



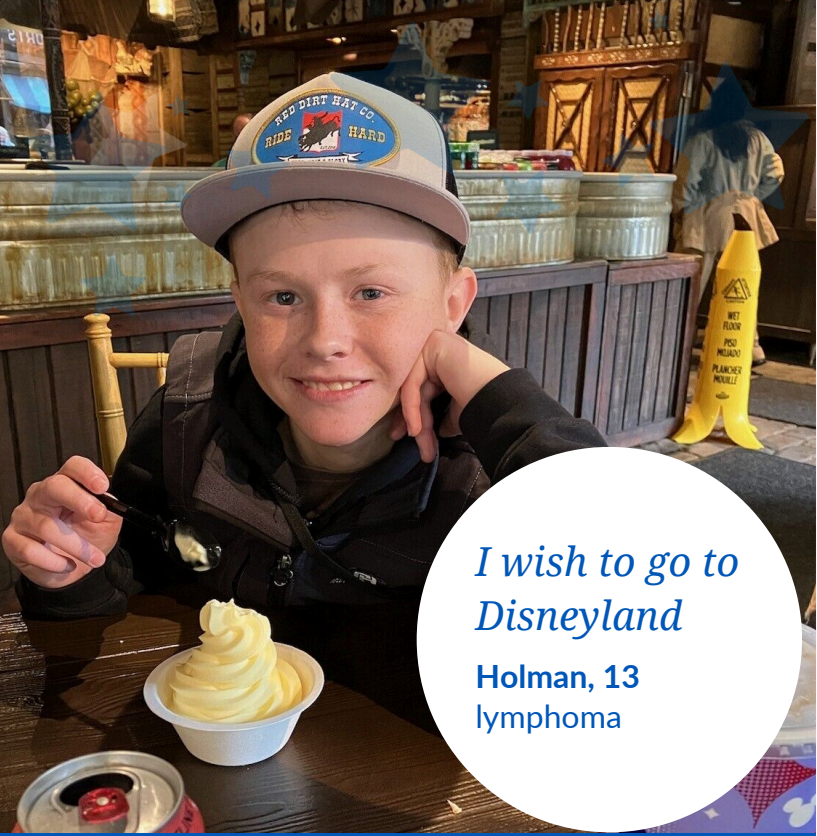
to meet

3%



to be

1%



*I wish to go to  
Disneyland*

Holman, 13  
lymphoma



*I wish to go to  
Hawaii*

Harper, 16  
cancer

## Idaho's 2000th wish

"This wish kept his hopes up; it gave him something to look forward to and he really is so grateful to get to go. Wishes are so much to these kids. Seriously, I can't tell you how much this gave him a positive focus during a very scary and sad time of his life as he battled cancer and the complications of having most his intestines removed as a complication from chemo," said wish mom Karin.

## A Boost of Confidence

"This trip came at a great time. It gave her something to look forward to. It was something she really needed mentally and physically. It gave her a boost of confidence and was able to rejuvenate her. The sun always helps put a smile on her face," said wish mom Niki.



# What Families Are Saying



“The trip was like a prize for Sydney after everything she’s gone through. She was just really excited to go. At the end of those two years, the wish was definitely a celebration for her.”

*I wish to go to Disneyland*

Sydney, 12  
end-stage kidney disease

“The wish reminded us of how much of a fighter this kid is. It was nice to have a moment to celebrate Oliver and his battle. It reminded us that two years ago, he was very sick and that he’s come so far from being that kid. We’re reminded that he’s in remission, and that’s he just a happy little seven-year-old again.”



*I wish to go to Legoland*

Oliver, 7  
leukemia



“We felt very taken care of and our coordinator was always available to talk and help in any way needed. We are very thankful for her and for Make-A-Wish. It’s a wonderful organization.”

*I wish to go to Disney World*

Layla, 5  
genetic disorder

“He enjoyed the whole trip, but he mostly just loved going on all the roller coasters and rides. Going to Disneyland did make an impact on him and you could just see the pure happiness he had when he was on a roller coaster and the happiness he had just being there.”



*I wish to go to Disneyland*

Ronan, 9  
kidney transplant



# 2023-2024 FINANCIALS



Revenue: \$3,603,639  
Expenses: \$3,259,271  
Net income: \$344,368  
Total net assets: \$3,305,393



 **THANK YOU TO  
OUR DONORS  
AND PARTNERS**



# ENGAGING WITH COMMUNITY



**KONO 5K**



**SERVING UP WISHES**



**GEBERT-ARBAUGH  
POLAR BEAR CHALLENGE**



**WISHES IN  
FLIGHT**



**WALK FOR WISHES  
EAST IDAHO**



**WALK FOR WISHES  
NORTH IDAHO**



**DUTCH BROS  
GIVE BACK DAY**



**JERSEY MIKE'S  
MONTH OF GIVING**



**FARM BUREAU  
GOLF TOURNAMENT**



**GUNS VS.  
HOSES**



**WISHES GOLF  
TOURNAMENT**



**WALK FOR WISHES  
MAGIC VALLEY**



**YLB KICKBALL  
TOURNAMENT**



**WORLD WISH  
MONTH**



**KIDS FOR  
WISH KIDS**



**BOISE ALBERTSONS  
OPEN**



# THE POWER OF A WISH

## Trauma Relief

**9 out of 10 wish parents** said the wish experience helped relieve their family from traumatic stress.

## Emotional & Mental Well-Being

**9 out of 10 wish parents** saw their child's emotional well-being improve with a wish.

## Turning Point

**8 out of 10 wish parents** saw that their child's wish gave them a stronger sense of empowerment.

## Strength to Fight

**8 out of 10 wish parents** say a child's wish experience serves as a coping mechanism during treatment.

## Long-Term Impact

**9 out of 10 wish parents** report that their child's wish experience strengthened their relationship with loved ones.

**“Thank you to everyone who made this possible for Oliver (and us),” said wish mom Heather. “I'm holding back happy tears. This means the world to us.”**



*I wish to go to Hawaii*

Oliver, 10  
genetic disorder

# OTHER WAYS TO GIVE

## Planned Giving

A planned gift, such as a bequest in your will or trust, life insurance designations, or stock donation ensures your support for the children we serve well into the future. You'll do more than help grant wishes, you'll create a legacy that will impact our wish kids for years to come.

## Securities Donations

If you have appreciated capital assets you've held for more than a year, such as stocks, there may be advantages to donating those directly to Make-A-Wish Idaho instead of selling them and paying tax first and then donating the net proceeds.

## Retirement Distributions

You can turn the required distribution from your IRA into a gift that creates life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses. If you are 70 ½ or older, you can contribute up to \$105,000 from your IRA tax-free (\$210,000 for qualifying married couples).

# We Can't Grant Wishes Without You

A large majority of Make-A-Wish alumni, parents, and medical providers overwhelmingly agree that wishes:

- Reduce anxiety and depression
- Improve compliance with medical treatment
- Relieve traumatic stress
- Act as a coping mechanism
- Bring families together
- Strengthen relationships with loved ones
- Augment the child's emotional well-being
- Provide self-esteem and confidence



(EIN): 82-0408150

Help us grant a wish at [idaho.wish.org](https://idaho.wish.org) or via the QR code



*I wish to have a shopping spree*

Jaxon, 13  
respiratory disorder

“It was the best time ever. It's like Christmas, but better,” Jaxon said.



*I wish to go to New York City*

Jacob, 18  
leukemia

“We are very appreciative of the trip. It provided a great family trip with so many wonderful memories,” said wish mom, Annette.
















*I wish to go to Disney World*

Maxwell, 10  
heart condition

“This trip gave Maxwell something to look forward to for a long time and lifted his spirits and brought a lot of joy to him,” said wish mom, Jessica.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	 <b>WISHES IN FLIGHT.</b> APRIL 10			 <b>WALK FOR WISHES.</b> MAGIC VALLEY MAY 17		
		 <b>WALK FOR WISHES.</b> NORTH IDAHO JUNE 7				
				 <b>WALK FOR WISHES.</b> EAST IDAHO JUNE 21		
	 SEPTEMBER 17					
						 JANUARY 10, 2026



Thanks to our community  
for creating wish magic.



*I wish to go to Disney World*

Penn, 5  
cancer



*I wish to go to Super Nintendo World*

Dalton, 7  
leukemia



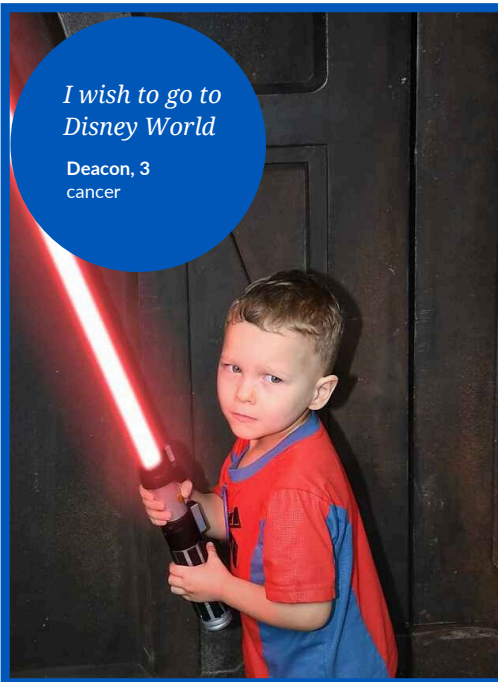
*I wish to go to Disney World*

Jaxon, 12  
neuromuscular disorder



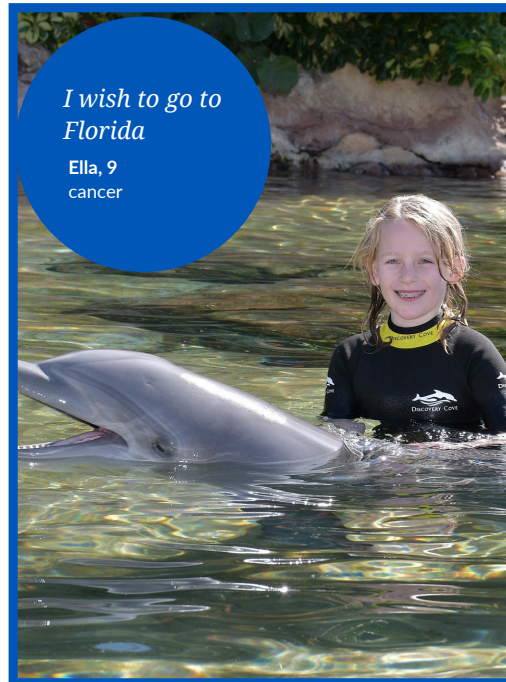
*I wish to have a shopping spree*

Whitney, 12  
respiratory disorder



*I wish to go to Disney World*

Deacon, 3  
cancer



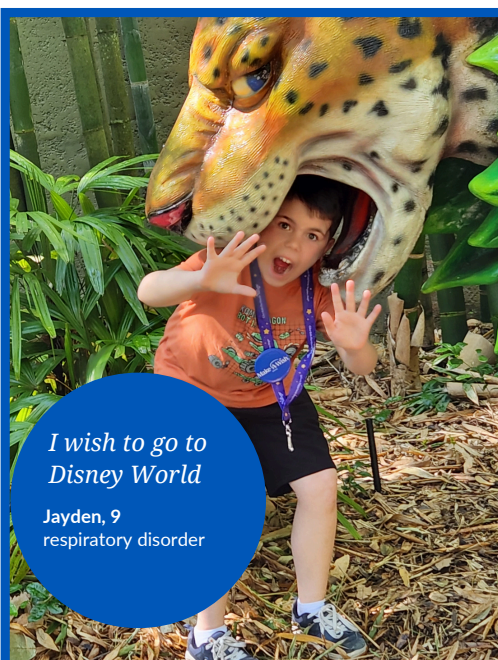
*I wish to go to Florida*

Ella, 9  
cancer



*I wish to go to Disney World*

Hollynd, 6  
nervous system disorder



*I wish to go to Disney World*

Jayden, 9  
respiratory disorder



*I wish to meet Ms. Rachel*

Lillyth, 3  
heart condition