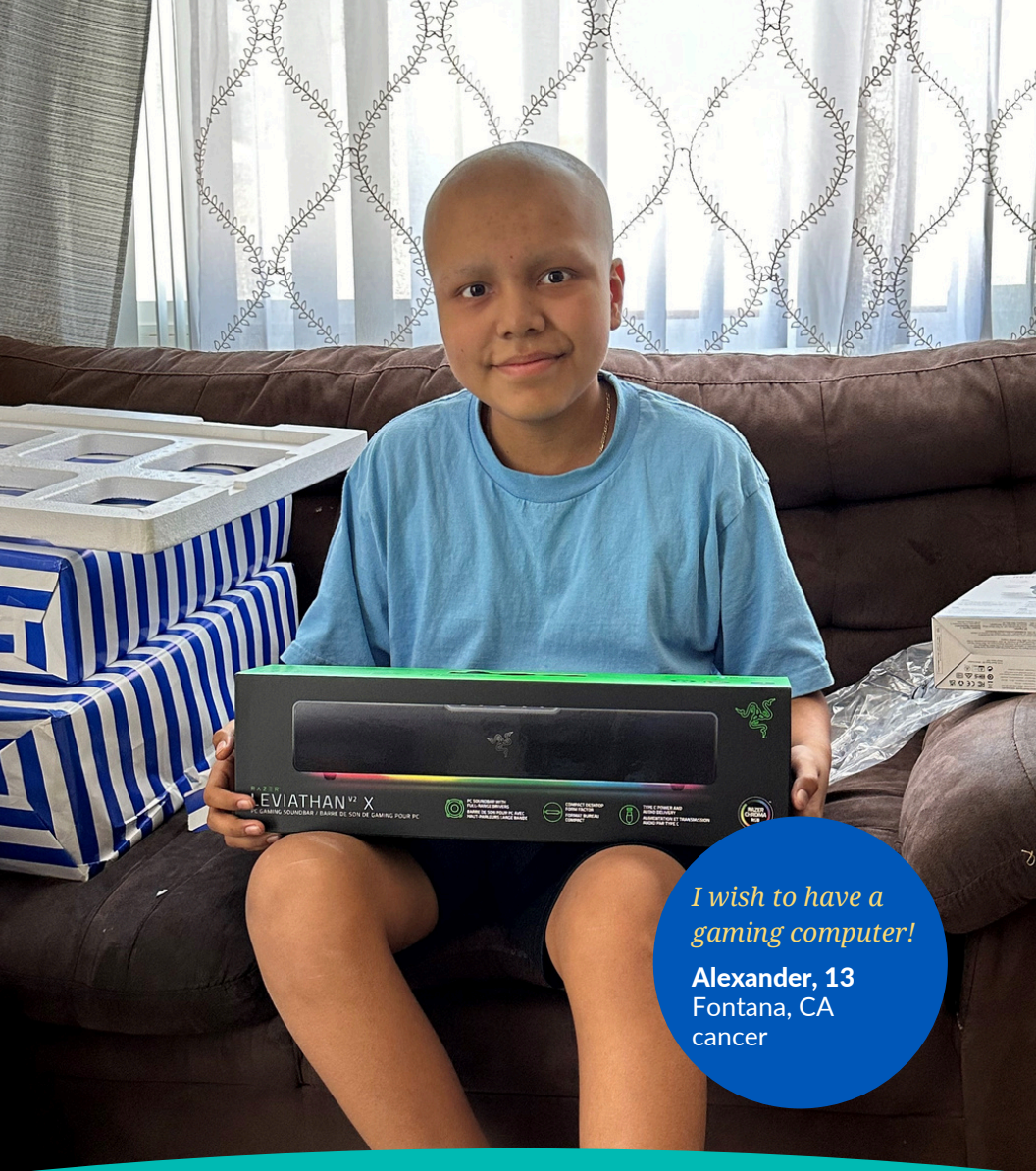




IMPACT REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2024

Story on
Pg. 3



*I wish to have a
gaming computer!*

Alexander, 13
Fontana, CA
cancer

Meet Alexander

Alexander, a brave boy from Fontana battling cancer, found comfort in drawing and video games during treatment. His wish for a custom-built gaming computer gave him something exciting to look forward to—an escape from chemo and a step toward his dream of working in the gaming industry. Now, he enjoys playing with his sisters, exploring new worlds, and staying connected to what he loves most. This wish isn't just a gift—it's inspiration, hope, and a reminder that his future is full of possibilities.

A Letter from *Leadership*

As we reflect on the lives transformed across Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties through the power of a wish, we remain committed to granting the wish of every eligible child, today and into the future. Your partnership is vital in creating life-changing wishes for local children with critical illnesses, and we want to thank you for your support. Together, we granted wishes for 271 local children last fiscal year!

As you read the 2024 Impact Report, we hope you'll see the effect you've had on the lives of children like Sophia from Santa Ana, whose wish to have a shopping spree provided a much-needed respite for her and her family after grueling treatments. We'll introduce you to some of the many community partners who play a pivotal role in granting life-changing wishes like these as we look toward the future.

We are incredibly fortunate to have supporters like you – who champion the Make-A-Wish mission and help us grant transformative wishes for kiddos and families who need them most. Together, we can continue to transform lives, one wish at a time.

With gratitude,



Anne Grey
Anne Grey, CFRE MBA
President & CEO, Make-A-Wish®
Orange County and the Inland Empire



Jeff Lewis
Jeff Lewis
Board Chair, Make-A-Wish®
Orange County and the Inland Empire

Mission

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

Vision

To grant the wish of every eligible child.

An Organization You Can Trust

We are proud to have achieved a 4-star rating on Charity Navigator and a Platinum Transparency Rating on GuideStar. These top ratings by America's largest independent charity evaluators reflect our chapter's strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency.

On a national scale, Make-A-Wish has maintained its strong position as the #1 Most Trusted Nonprofit Operating Locally Across 50 States in 2024 according to the annual study by Morning Consult of the Most Trusted Brands.



The Impact of a Wish



Source: Make-A-Wish 2022 Wish Impact Study (Rounded Figures)



*I wish to swim
with sharks!*
Tristan, 8
Newport Beach, CA
cancer

Meet Tristan

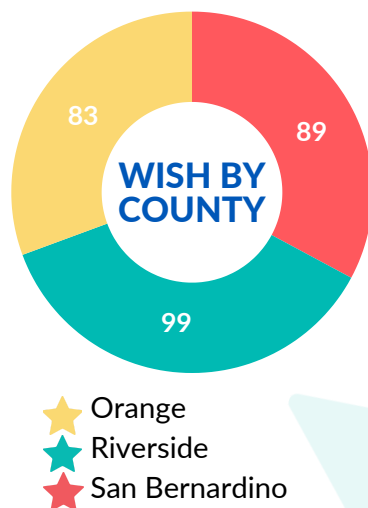
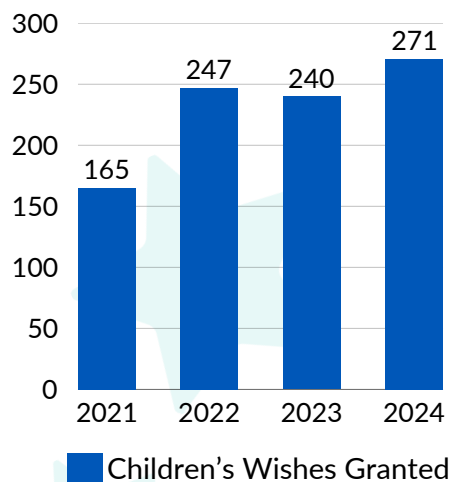
Eight-year-old Tristan from Newport Beach faced chemotherapy with courage, often drawing pictures of sharks as he dreamed of his wish. His journey led him to the Florida Keys, where he swam with nurse sharks, explored The Turtle Hospital, and took a glass-bottom boat cruise. His wish gave him something joyful to focus on beyond treatment, bringing excitement and hope during a challenging time. For kids like Tristan, a wish isn't just a moment—it's a powerful escape, a choice they control, and a reminder that they are more than their illness.

A Year of Life-Changing Wishes



This year, thanks to generous supporters, we granted **271 wishes** to children with critical illnesses across **Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties**—at no cost to their families. Since 1983, we've granted over 8,000 wishes, bringing hope and strength to local children. Every wish is possible because of **you**. Your support makes dreams come true and gives kids the hope they need to keep fighting.

Total Wishes



This Year, Local Kids Wished For...

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 127 Disney Destination | 8 Electronics | 1 Musical Instrument |
| 40 Shopping Spree | 7 Animal | 1 Party/Celebration |
| 25 Celebrity/Sporting Event | 7 Other | 1 To Be a Pilot |
| 21 Travel - Domestic | 2 Playset/Playhouse | |
| 15 Computer | 2 Room Redecoration | |
| 13 Travel - Hawaii | 1 Education/Scholarship | |

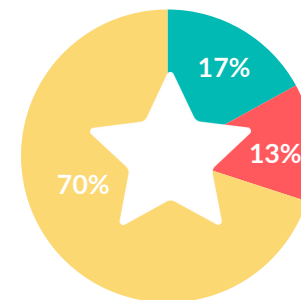
Fiscal Year 2024 Finances

Our funding comes from individuals, corporations, and foundation grants. We also rely on in-kind contributions to keep costs down to grant as many wishes as possible. Local funds grant wishes for local kids.

FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

- ★ Program **70%**
- ★ Fundraising **17%**
- ★ Management & General **13%**

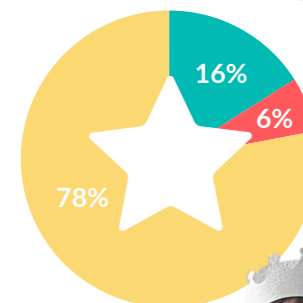
Total Functional Expenses
\$4,802,610



TOTAL REVENUE

- ★ Public Support **78%**
- ★ Special Events **16%**
- ★ Other **6%**

Total Revenue
\$5,362,400

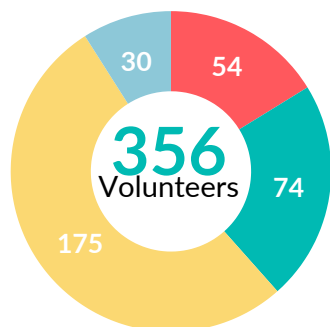


*I wish to go to
Disney World®!*

Malachi, 5
Menifee, CA
congenital heart disease

The Community Behind Wishes

At Make-A-Wish Orange County and the Inland Empire, we know that the more than 8,000 wishes granted would not have been possible without the creativity and commitment of countless donors, partners, and volunteers. **A wish begins with hope and hope begins with you.**



- ★ Orange
- ★ Riverside
- ★ San Bernardino
- ★ Out of Territory

8,218
Hours
Volunteered

179
Wish
Granters

Wish Granting Duo Bringing Hope and Joy

Meet **Silvana Camarero** and **Gracie Ruano**, an inspiring Wish Granting duo making a profound impact on local wish families. Originally from Argentina, **Gracie has been a wish granter for 11 years**, drawing from her own experience battling cancer to connect with wish kids. Her passion inspired **Silvana to join 10 years ago**, and together, they take on multiple children's wishes each week. As **bilingual volunteers**, they provide essential support to our many Spanish-speaking families, ensuring every child's voice is heard.



Wish granters like Silvana and Gracie meet with wish kids, help them discover their one true wish, and work with staff to bring it to life. Their dedication is life-changing, but we **need more Spanish-speaking volunteers** to serve our diverse community. **Join us in creating hope, strength, and joy—one wish at a time at wish.org/ocie/volunteer.**

I wish to have a shopping spree!

Sophia, 9
Santa Ana, CA
leukemia



Meet Sophia

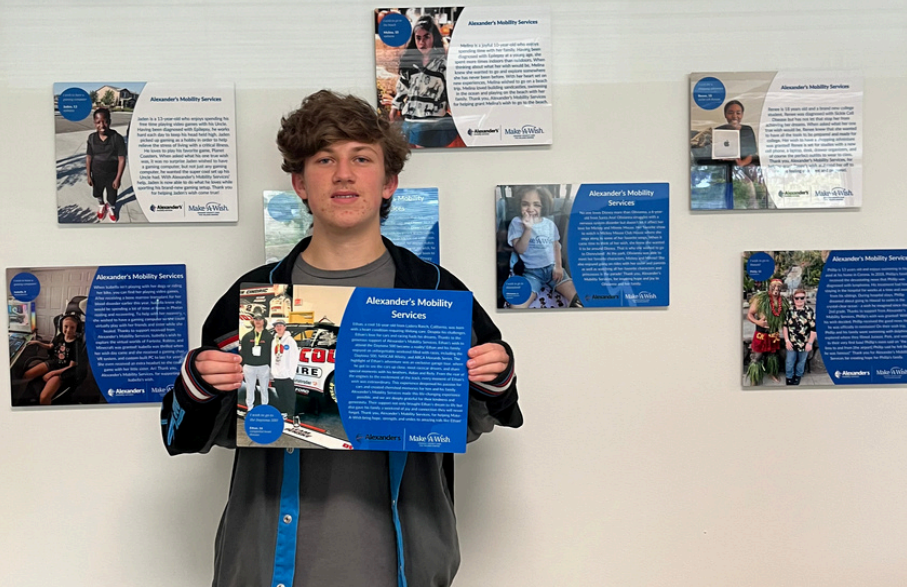
Nine-year-old Sophia from Santa Ana, facing leukemia, wished for a shopping spree where she could choose what she wanted—electronics, clothes, shoes, and even a bike! Her wish granters, Silvana and Gracie, made the experience extra special, helping her feel welcomed and understood in her native language, Spanish. With a limo ride kicking off the day, Sophia was all smiles, enjoying the freedom to pick what made her happiest. For kids like Sophia, a wish is more than a gift—it's a chance to take control, dream big, and just be a kid.

Corporate Partners Making *an Impact*

Alexander's Mobility Services is a shining example of how corporate partners can create lasting impact. Since 2009, their dedicated team has helped grant **44 wishes for children** in Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties. Each year, they rally their employees and community through a charity bake sale, with all proceeds benefiting Make-A-Wish OCIE. In FY24, they granted **three more life-changing wishes**, including 16-year-old Ethan's wish to attend the Daytona 500. Ethan, pictured below, proudly presented Alexander's with a plaque to display on their Make-A-Wish impact wall. Based in Tustin, CA, Alexander's Mobility employees go beyond philanthropy—they volunteer and bring hope and joy to local children. We are grateful for their unwavering support!



Make-A-Wish



Inspiring Young Hearts to Grant Wishes

A dedicated supporter since 2014, **The Learning Experience – Eastvale** continues to rally the community to grant life-changing wishes. In FY24, they raised over \$10,000 during the **Let's Grant Wishes** Campaign, part of their annual commitment to Make-A-Wish. Their year-round fundraising efforts include **Photos with Santa**, **Children's Art Auctions**, **Restaurant Nights**, and more, all benefiting local wish kids. Through creativity and generosity, The Learning Experience fosters a spirit of giving, proving that even the youngest hearts can make a big impact. We are grateful for their dedication to bringing hope and joy to children in our community!



5 WAYS YOU CAN TRANSFORM LIVES

1. Adopt-A-Wish

With a \$10,000 gift, grant a life-changing wish and receive a plaque with the child's photo and story.

2. Host a Fundraising Event

Your group can host an event to benefit our chapter. Fundraising events can take so many different forms – your creativity is the limit!

3. Create a Gift Matching Fund

Gift matching funds utilized through mini-campaigns help renew and recruit donors to the mission.

4. Include Make-A-Wish in Estate Plans

Bequests and other gift vehicles create donor legacies and provide critical wish-granting resources.

5. Start a Conversation

Make-A-Wish would love to engage with you regarding your philanthropic goals and funding needs of our mission. To learn more about how your donation can have a lifelong impact, email us at getinvolved@ocie.wish.org

Events that Rally the Community to *Celebrate*

In fiscal year 2024, our community came together to bring hope and joy to wish kids through four signature events: *The Make-A-Wish Gala*, *The Desert Underground*, *It's In The Bag*, and *Pickleball For Wishes*. These events, along with generous third-party fundraisers hosted by community partners, played a vital role in raising funds and sharing our mission. Together, we continue to inspire hope and make dreams come true for children facing critical illnesses.



Teams compete and raise funds at *Pickleball For Wishes*.



Xayden's wish for a puppy is granted at *The Make-A-Wish Gala*.



The Desert Underground raised funds to help wishes take flight!

Support Our Upcoming *Community Events*

Pickleball For Wishes – August 2, 2025

The Tennis and Pickleball Club at Newport Beach

Gather your friends or colleagues to enjoy the sport of pickleball and help raise funds to grant children's wishes! PickleballForWishes.org

The Make-A-Wish Gala – October 18, 2025

Balboa Bay Resort

An evening of glamour and giving to grant life-changing wishes for children facing critical illnesses, bringing hope and joy to families. WishGala.org

Trailblaze Challenge – March 6-8, 2026

Joshua Tree National Park

Conquer 18 miles of breathtaking trails in while empowering wish kids and embracing adventure. Wish.org/ocie/trailblaze-challenge-0



*I wish to go to
Disney Aulani!*

Mia, 11
Garden Grove, CA
epilepsy

Meet Mia

Spunky and full of life, 11-year-old Mia from Garden Grove has battled epilepsy since infancy. After enduring years of uncertainty and brain surgery, she wished to visit Disney Aulani, a dream that gave her hope and joy during difficult times. From limo rides to ziplining and hula dancing, Mia's trip was pure magic. Following her wish, she strutted down the runway at *It's In The Bag*, sharing her story and inspiring others. Best of all—since her wish, Mia has been seizure-free, proving that wishes have the power to transform lives!

The Power of Media in Making Wishes *Come True*

In FY24, media partnerships helped amplify the magic of wishes. **KTLA 5's Wish Wednesday** spotlighted wish kids, sharing their inspiring stories at no cost to our nonprofit. **Southwest Airlines** helped grant Ewan's dream of being a pilot at LAX, while **Cappy's Café** hosted a **Waffle Eating Contest** on National Waffle Day, bringing together city officials, first responders, and wish alum Jacob to raise funds for local wish kids. These moments showcase how the community comes together to create joy and lasting memories for children facing critical illnesses.



By the Numbers: *Media Impact in FY24*

- ☆ 295 media mentions
- ☆ 77.9 million media reach for local stories
- ☆ 20K social media followers on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, & YouTube
- ☆ 19K engaged email subscribers receiving our monthly eNewsletter

How You Can Help

There are many ways to support wish kids—host a fundraiser, share stories on social media, or partner with us to grant wishes. Businesses, media, and individuals play a vital role in making life-changing wishes come true. Whether through donations, volunteering, or raising awareness, your support brings hope to children facing critical illnesses. **To get involved, call (714) 573-9474 or email getinvolved@ocie.wish.org.**



I wish to be a pilot at LAX!

Ewan, 16
Santa Ana, CA
leukemia

Meet Ewan

For 16-year-old Ewan from Santa Ana, battling leukemia was physically and emotionally exhausting. Now in remission, he wished to be a pilot—a dream fueled by his fascination with airplanes. Thanks to Southwest Airlines, Ewan received VIP access to LAX, sitting in the pilot's seat, exploring air traffic control, and learning the ins and outs of aviation. Sharing this unforgettable day with his family, Ewan gained more than an experience—he found hope for his future. Now, he dreams of attending flight school, proving that a wish can inspire endless possibilities.



*I wish to go to
Disney World!*

Samaira, 5
Lake Forest, CA
bone marrow transplant

Meet Samaira

Five-year-old Samaira from Lake Forest, a bone marrow transplant recipient, adores all things Disney—especially Minnie Mouse and the princesses! When asked about her one true wish, she knew it had to include the magic of Disney. Thanks to the generosity of Disney, Samaira's wish to visit Disney World came true! Her wish trip was a joyful escape from medical treatments, allowing her to just be a kid. She lit up meeting Minnie Mouse and her favorite princesses, giggling on attractions and waving during the magical parade.

FISCAL YEAR 2025

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Make-A-Wish®

ORANGE COUNTY AND
THE INLAND EMPIRE

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

Connect With Us!



wish.org/ocie

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Make-A-Wish Orange County and the Inland Empire is a 501(C)3 nonprofit organization Tax ID 33-0036556