



THE IMPACT OF A WISH

WHY WISHES MATTER: Research shows wishes give children more than a moment of joy, they can build the physical and emotional strength needed to fight a critical illness. For families, the wish journey replaces fear with hope and anxiety with joy, creating lasting memories together.

“A wish gives kids the chance to feel like kids again – not patients.”

THE IMPACT OF A WISH:

- **Strength:** Research shows a wish can give kids the strength to fight against and even overcome a critical illness.
- **Hope:** A wish renews hope, uplifts spirits, and encourages the belief in the impossible.
- **Transformation:** A wish forever transforms the lives of children, their families, and entire communities.
- **Community:** A wish unites neighbors, friends, and entire communities in life-changing experiences.

MAKE-A-WISH AMERICA- IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS:

- **9 out of 10** wish kids say their wish made them more hopeful for the future.
- **9 out of 10** parents say their child's wish relieved their family from traumatic stress.
- **9 out of 10** medical providers say a wish improves a child's emotional well-being and treatment outcomes.

MAKE-A-WISH EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA- LOCAL IMPACT:

- Roughly half of all wishes are Disney destination wishes.
- There are nearly 300 children currently waiting for their wish.
- The average wish cost is \$10,000
- Over 4,800 wishes have been granted since 1986, with the 5,000th wish anticipated to be granted in 2026
- Make-A-Wish Eastern North Carolina is currently celebrating its 40th anniversary

