

FISCAL YEAR 2025

Annual Impact Report

440

YEARS OF WISHES

Make-A-Wish®
NORTH DAKOTA





2025 at a Glance



47 WISHES GRANTED



91 QUALIFIED REFERRALS



185 VOLUNTEERS



\$2,481,592 TOTAL REVENUE



\$2,278,470 TOTAL EXPENSES

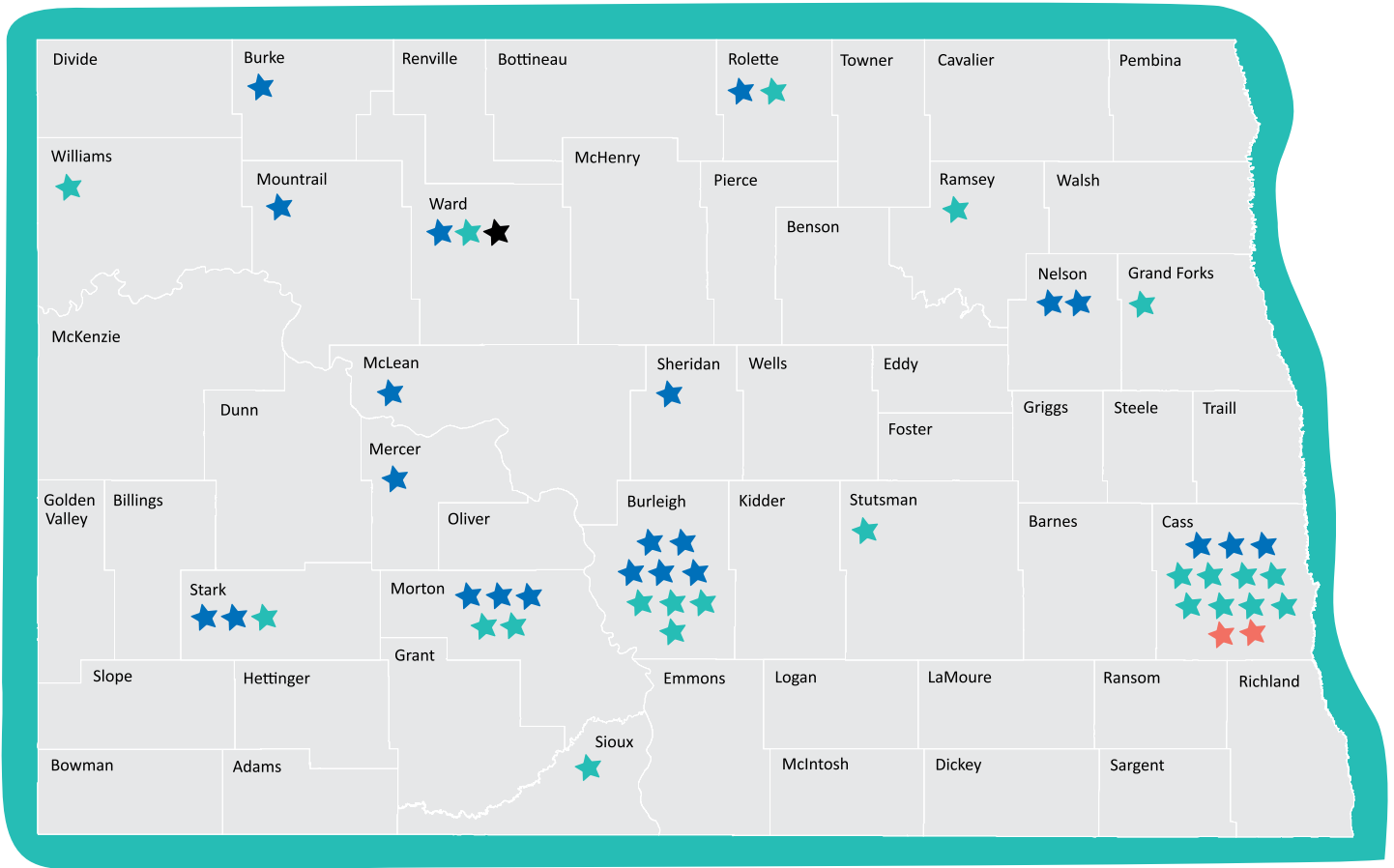
By the Numbers

47 WISHES GRANTED

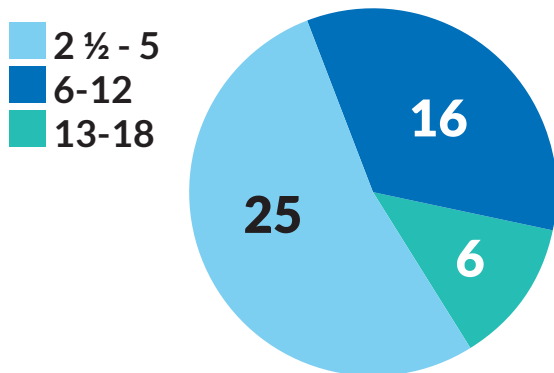
Wishes Granted

Through the power of life-changing donations, time, expertise and in-kind support, Make-A-Wish® North Dakota was able to grant **47 wishes** this past fiscal year. With each wish granted, we are providing hope, strength and joy for families across North Dakota.

- ★ I wish to go
- ★ I wish to have
- ★ I wish to meet
- ★ Other



Ages of kids served:



Overall wish satisfaction:

- 95%** stated their wish met or exceeded expectations
- 100%** agree that wish granters captured the spirit of the wish
- 100%** agree that elements needed to fulfill the wish were well implemented
- 100%** agree that the overall experience was a positive distraction from their/their child's illness

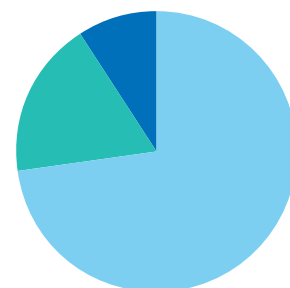


Medical Outreach

91 QUALIFIED REFERRALS IN FY25

75 Referrals from Medical Providers

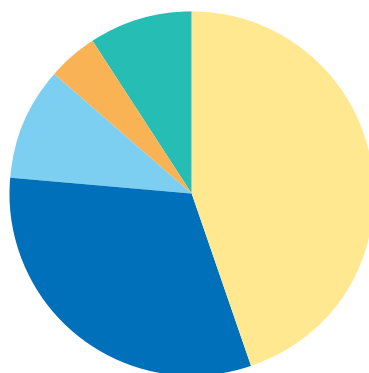
16 Referrals from Family Members



■ North Dakota Providers – 65
 ■ Parent, Family Self – 16
 ■ Out of State Medical Providers – 8

Types of medical conditions (by major category) in FY25

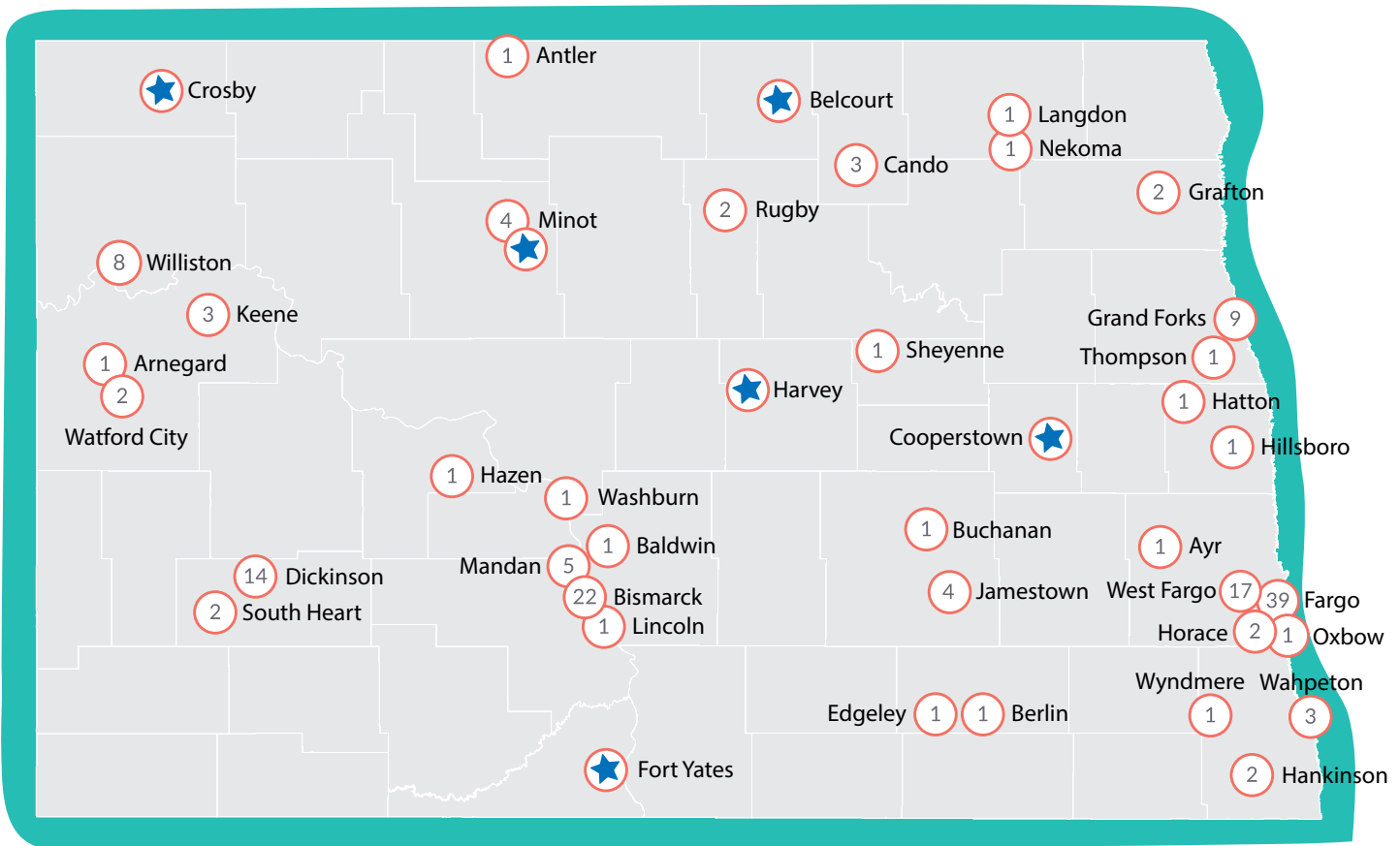
- Cardiology – 40
- Hematology and Oncology – 28
- Neurology – 9
- Nephrology – 4
- All others:
 - Gastroenterology – 3
 - Genetics – 3
 - Endocrinology – 1
 - Rheumatology – 1



Volunteers

185 VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers by City



ND volunteers who live in MN:

- 2 Barnesville
- 5 Breckenridge
- 1 Halstad
- 1 Hopkins
- 12 Moorhead
- 1 New Prague
- 1 Richville
- 1 Vergas



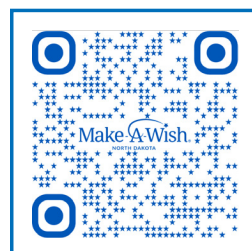
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

How to Become a Volunteer

Volunteers are the backbone of making wishes come true, and you can become a volunteer in 5 easy steps:

1. Submit an application
2. Have an interview with a local team member
3. Complete a background check
4. Complete training (virtual options available)
5. Be welcomed aboard!

Scan the QR code to complete your volunteer application!



Wishes

Wishes granted between
September 2024 and
August 2025

Adlee, 13

heart condition | Dickinson
"I wish to have a husky"

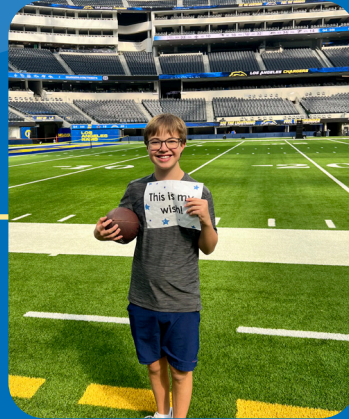
Wish Granters: Bonnie Goldsberry,
Meagen Powell and Hope Sticka



Connor, 3

cancer | Mandan
"I wish to go to Disney World®"

Wish Granters: Amber and Joseph Aldred



Jacob, 15

congenital heart disease | West Fargo
"I wish to go to a Vikings game at
SoFi Stadium"

Wish Granters: Erick and Lisa
Grafstrom

Kenobi, 13

cancer | Columbus
"I wish to have a Star
Wars experience at
Disneyland®"

Wish Granters: Nikki Hill
and Josh Herbold



Miles, 7

brain tumor | Minot
"I wish to spend time with
my family"

Wish Granters: Dawn
Roness and Tara Hart



Jaxson, 16

leukemia | Fargo
"I wish to have
a jet ski"

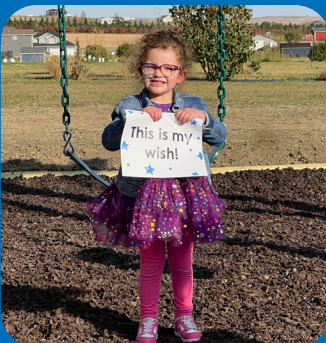
Wish Granters:
Emily Flanagan and
Landon Vogel



Jules, 4

kidney disease | Mandan
"I wish to have an adaptable
outdoor playset"

Wish Granter: Amy Keller



Aubry, 13

cancer | Mandan
"I wish to go to Disney
World®"

Wish Granters: Whitney
Deterding, Sophia Janssen,
and Julia Vanwynsberghe





Daeman, 15

kidney disease | West Fargo
"I wish to go on a shopping spree in the Twin Cities"
Wish Granters: Angie Leier and Lindsey Wagner



Jocelyn, 15

congenital heart disease Bismarck
"I wish to have a fish house"
Wish Granters: Amber and Joe Aldred

Chloe, 18

brain tumor | Bismarck
"I wish to go to Hawaii"
Wish Granters: Maran Blair and Amanda Godfred



Kyleigh, 18

cancer | Dickinson
"I wish to go to a Taylor Swift concert"
Wish Granters: Bonnie Goldsberry and Jen Murray



Thea, 6

cancer | Beulah
"I wish to go on a cruise and see turtles"
Wish Granters: Patrick Ahman, Heather Kontz, and Tiffany Ahman

Cassius, 9

vascular disorder | Fargo
"I wish to have a magic treehouse"
Wish Granters: Emily Flanagan and Adrienne Swick



Dawson, 18

cancer | Grand Forks
"I wish to have a fish house"
Wish Granters: Sara Hennemann and Christy Mehus



Jimmy, 16

lymphoma | Fargo
"I wish to have a new gaming setup"
Wish Granters: Josh Herbold and Josh Moen

Piper, 11

neuromuscular disorder | Lakota
"I wish to go to Universal Studios®"
Wish Granters: Karen Anderson and Katie Miller





Eric, 13

kidney disease | Tolna
"I wish to go to Disney World®"
Wish Granters: Lana Nicholas and Cassie Ulliyott



Elizabeth, 14

congenital heart disease | Fargo
"I wish to meet Ryden and Andy"
Wish Granters: Adrienne Swick and Maret Kashmark



Blake, 12

gastrointestinal disorder | Fargo "I wish to go to a Minnesota Timberwolves game and meet the team" Wish Granters: Mary King, Jennifer Schuldheisz, and Cherie Moody



Bria, 15

nervous system disorder | Jamestown
"I wish to have a wheelchair with tracks"
Wish Granters: Kelli Just and Ava Wille



Braxton, 7

congenital heart disease | Fargo
"I wish to have a beach experience"
Wish Granters: Jamie Hansen, Devin O'Harra, and Lori Abbott



Clark, 4

leukemia | McClusky
"I wish to go to Diggerland"
Wish Granters: Monica Hieb and Toni Wegenast



Hailyann, 18

heart condition | Bismarck
"I wish to go to Hawaii"
Wish Granters: KrisAnn Norby-Jahner and Kim Weismann

Jameson, 5

genetic disorder | Stanley
"I wish to go on a Disney® Cruise"
Wish Granters: Paige Argent and Dawn Roness



Elizabeth, 3

brain tumor | Bismarck
"I wish to have a playroom"
Wish Granters: Angie Leier, Melissa Lehr, and Lindsey Wagner



Easton, 12

cancer | Fargo
"I wish to meet Jesser"

Wish Granters: Amy Nephew and
Jamie Hansen



Lucas, 18

lymphoma | Fargo
"I wish to have
saxophones for college"

Wish Granters: Alka
Singh, Jamie Hansen,
and Lindsey Wagner



Niya, 14

lymphoma | Bismarck
"I wish to explore Seoul,
South Korea"

Wish Granters: Heather
Nelsen and Kelli Just



Nathan, 4

cancer | Turtle Lake
"I wish to go to Diggerland"

Wish Granters: Tonya
Gieser and Melissa Ahonen



Jessly, 6

brain tumor | Devils Lake
"I wish to have an adaptive
play room"

Wish Granters: Lana
Nicholas and Kathy Miller



Quwaden, 13

kidney disease | Dunseith
"I wish to go to Legoland®"

Wish Granters: Sophia Janssen
and Lindsey Martens



Emery, 11

heart condition | Cannon Ball
"I wish to have a
gaming space"

Wish Granters: Melissa
Ahonen and Maret Kashmark



Clint, 13

neuromuscular disorder | Solen
"I wish to have an adaptive gaming space"

Wish Granters: Amber and
Joe Aldred



Noah, 13

nervous system disorder
Bismarck
"I wish to have a camper"
Wish Granters: Amanda Godfread and Laney Herauf

Chet, 9

kidney disease | Williston
"I wish to have a camper"
Wish Granters: Heidi Guetzkow and Ali Lass



Kayden, 16

congenital heart disease
Menoken
"I wish to have a golf simulator"
Wish Granters: Allison Taylor and Deb Stoltman



Additional Wishes

BOY, 16* – *cancer* | Bismarck
"I wish to go on a cruise"
Wish Granters: Alisha Blackshear, Ashley Belcourt, and Deb Stoltman

BOY, 15* – *liver transplant* | West Fargo
"I wish to have a fish house"
Wish Granters: Rebecca Collins and Olivia Wagendorf

BOY, 6* – *leukemia* | Bismarck
"I wish to go to Disney World®"
Wish Granters: Nikki Hill and Maran Blair

BOY, 12* – *autoimmune disorder* | Minot
"I wish to see orcas"
Wish Granters: Paige Argent and Dawn Roness

GIRL, 8* – *heart condition*
"I wish to go on a girl's trip to San Diego"
Wish Granters: Ryan Campbell, Eric Ewoniuk, and Nicole Ewoniuk

BOY, 18* – *cancer*
"I wish to have a jet ski"
Wish Granters: Tate Hovland and Anne Keller

BOY, 6* - *blood disorder*
"I wish to have a pontoon."
Wish Granter: Jessica Cervenka

* This wish child and their family have requested to remain anonymous

Madelyn, 6

cancer | Kenmare
"I wish to have a farm themed playhouse"
Wish Granters: Dawn Roness and Tara Hart



Amelia, 12

congenital heart disease | Mandan
"I wish to go to Hawaii"
Wish Granters: Ivy Pokorny and Tiffany Ahmann

Tyrus, 16

heart condition Dunseith
"I wish to have a fishing boat"
Wish Granters: Mary King, Cherie Moody, and Jennifer Schultheisz



Volunteer Reflections

Sara Pic, Bismarck

PERSONAL MOTIVATION & CONNECTION

Q: What inspired you to begin volunteering with Make-A-Wish North Dakota?

A: In 2017, DJ Campbell and I worked together, and he encouraged me to participate with him on the 2018 World of Wishes Planning Committee as he felt the organization's mission and my values aligned. I had heard about Make-A-Wish previously and had an idea of how they helped children, and I was eager to get involved and be a part of it.

MOST MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCE

Q: Can you share a moment from the past year (2025) that best reflects the impact Make-A-Wish has on families?

A: In 2025, my friend's daughter, also my Goddaughter, Annley, received her wish for an outdoor oasis through Make-A-Wish, and I was so excited to be one of her wish granters. For the past 5 1/2+ years, I have watched first-hand how our dear friends managed Annley's premature birth, her diagnoses, all of the doctor's appointments, months away from home in Rochester, sleepless nights, and emergency room visits. Being a small part of Make-A-Wish allowed me the opportunity to see how truly impactful a wish is to the kids (and families) we serve. Annley's joy on her wish reveal day was contagious! It was a wonderful reminder of how truly meaningful these wishes are.

Q: Describe a wish experience or interaction that left a lasting impression on you.

A: I think I will always hold a special place in my heart for my first wish kid, Ethan. I met Ethan during 2020, which was also the first year of Covid. That provided some challenges with the timing of Ethan's wish as he wished to go to *Disneyland*[®] Resort for Bing Bong's Sweet Stuff. Ethan was steadfast in his wish, even as he waited for a couple of years. We really got to know Ethan and his family, and it was the best day when we could finally surprise him at his wish reveal!



Above L-R: Sara Pic, wish child Annley, and fellow wish granter Whitney Deterding.

VOLUNTEER PERSPECTIVE ON MISSION IMPACT

Q: From your perspective as a volunteer, how do you see wishes transforming the lives of children and their families?

A: From the wish discovery to the wish reveal and finally the wish being granted, I think the whole wish process provides the children and families with positive anticipation. We're invited in to meet these families, and we get to say, "Yes!" to a lot of incredible wishes! I see these wishes providing strength and offering an opportunity to be excited for our kids and their families.

Q: What impact do you believe your volunteer work has on the families you support?

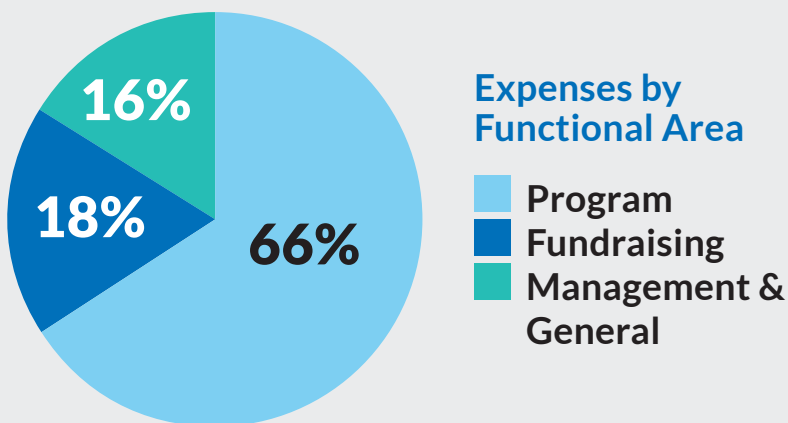
A: I truly believe the impact we have goes far beyond a trip or physical gift. For these kids, a wish is hope. It's a chance for them to just be without thinking about treatments or hospital stays. It provides an opportunity where they can focus on pure joy rather than a diagnosis.

Fundraising

 **\$2,481,592** TOTAL REVENUE

 **\$2,278,470** TOTAL EXPENSES

 **2,347** DONORS



\$396,992
EXTERNAL EVENT
REVENUE RAISED

\$264,222
INTERNAL EVENT
REVENUE RAISED

External Event Partners

By raising funds through public and private events, these partners have made a remarkable impact on wish granting.

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Arby's | MHA Systems |
| Bakken BBQ | Moorhead Presbyterian Church |
| Benedictine Living Community (Dickinson) | Nelson's Pumpkin Patch |
| Countyline Barn Dance | Panera |
| Cow Pie Bingo | Papa Johns |
| Detailing Division | Purse Bingo |
| Dickinson Noon Lions | Puzzle Competition |
| Downtown Community Partnership (Fargo) | Sandy's Donuts |
| Gary Spicer | Simple Nutrition |
| Glik's | SmileQuest |
| Hunt Oil | St. John Lutheran Church (Hatton) |
| Jade Presents | Suite Shots |
| Jennifer's Little Stars Child Care | The Arc of Dickinson |
| Leela & Lavender | The Starving Rooster |
| Memory Fireworks | Tommy's Car Wash |



Top: Dickinson Noon Lions event
Bottom: Moorhead Presbyterian Church Sausage Fest

Adopt-A-Wish Partners

Each partner listed has donated enough funds to cover the cash costs of at least one wish. Their efforts help ensure every eligible child is reached.

Bakken BBQ	Makes Cents / MHA Systems
Ben Aslesen	Marathon
Countyline Barn Dance	MDU Resources Foundation
Cullen Children's Foundation	Neil Bartelson
Dakota Community Bank & Trust	SmileQuest
The Dendy Family	The Steven and Wanda Uran-Nelson
Dickinson Noon Lions	Charitable Fund
Flint Group	Sweet & Salty Sisters
Isabell Dabbert Endowment	Tom and Frances Leach Foundation
Latt Family and Pioneer Seeds	Vogel Law
Lincoln Community Club	Williston Basin Chapter of API

Internal Event Partners

Event sponsors allow 100% of proceeds raised at events to go toward wish granting. This important support spreads awareness about Make-A-Wish and sparks others to give.

ASK Transportation	Flint Group	MasTec
Basin Electric Power Cooperative	GA Group	Metro Area Ambulance
Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota	Gate City Bank	Northwest Communications Cooperative
Bobcat	Goebel Pediatric Dentistry	Overland Aviation
Bremer Bank	Hess Corporation	Primec Controls
Burns & McDonnell	Homestead Wind	R.D. Offutt Company
Butler Machinery	Houston Engineering	Red Rock Ford
CHI St. Alexius Health	ima Healthcare	Ruach Resources
Dakota Community Bank & Trust	JCR Excavating	Sagency
Dr. April Evans	JE Dunn	Sanford Health
Edward Jones – Chris Posch	Kelsch Law	Scheels
Enbridge	Kirkwood Bank & Trust	Schlosser-Hohbein Families
Essentia	LaCrosse Family	Starion
Expanse Electrical	Legacy Financial Partners	Valley News Live
Farmers Insurance – Kyle Herman Agency	Magi Touch Carpet One Floor & Home	Vogel Law
FieldWise	Marathon	Williston Basin International Airport
First International Bank & Trust	Maring Williams Law	Williston Legion

In-Kind Partners

Thank you to our more than 500 in-kind donors who have given various goods and services to our organization in support of wish granting and fundraising events!



THANK YOU!

Thank you to all the families, donors, and volunteers who helped bring life-changing wishes to children with critical illnesses in our Fiscal Year 2025. You brought hope, strength, and joy to children just when they needed it most.



Billi Jo Zielinski
President and CEO



Lindsey Wagner
*Mission Delivery Senior
Manager*



Melissa Lehr
Wish Coordinator



Kelli Just
*Medical Affairs
Coordinator*



Angie Leier
Volunteer Director



Amanda Godfread
*Chief Philanthropy
Officer*



Abby Crowley
*Finance and Development
Coordinator*



Kayla Pederson
*Database and
Operations Manager*

Make-A-Wish[®]
NORTH DAKOTA

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