

WARM WISHES

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF MAKE-A-WISH® ORANGE COUNTY AND THE INLAND EMPIRE



*I wish to give to my
hospital's Pediatric Unit*

Matthew, 17
Burkitt lymphoma

Matthew stands with Dr. Van Winkle

Make-A-Wish®
ORANGE COUNTY AND
THE INLAND EMPIRE

★ CELEBRATING 35 YEARS OF WISHES ★



Stephanie McCormick
Stephanie McCormick
President & CEO



Janine Lombardi
Janine Lombardi
FY18 Board Chair

Letter From the CEO and Board Chair

35 Years of **Wishes**

This year, we celebrate 35 years of granting wishes in our local community. We are tremendously grateful for the support of our volunteers, donors, corporate partners, community, Board of Directors and staff; without whom, we would not have been able to grant more than 6,000 wishes since our inception.

Our local chapter began in 1983 when we granted Tamra's wish to see the blue waters of the Caribbean. Since then, we've experienced the magic of so many wishes and work to continue to provide life-changing experiences for the children and families we serve.

We believe there is a power behind a wish granted. Children are more likely to comply with treatment, families are able to reunite after months spent in the hospital, and memories are made that will last a lifetime. Every life we touch, every wish we grant – we are part of that person's story for years to come.

This summer we will be sharing 35 incredible stories of our wish children and the people who make wishes come true. We invite you to follow along and consider making a donation at ocie.wish.org/summer to help ensure we reach every medically-eligible child living in our area.

Thank you for your continued support of our organization and mission.



Glenn with wish child, Alyse.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT **GLENN URATA**

WISH GRANTER, SPECIAL EVENTS, MEDICAL OUTREACH TEAM

In the world of wish granting, volunteer needs can often come up last minute. Although we understand all of our volunteers have busy lives and packed schedules, we are in awe of how they still graciously make time to help make wishes come true.

One volunteer in particular, Glenn Urata, has an incredible heart for our wish families and is willing to be and go just about anywhere – even driving from Orange County to Barstow on several occasions! We are truly grateful to have Glenn on our volunteer team and are honored to spotlight him for his dedication to the Make-A-Wish mission.

Here are a few words from Glenn:

"I have known of Make-A-Wish since childhood and became involved after I saw that a high school friend was a wish granter. The kids keep me coming back. I am honored by the profound gratefulness of the families - they need to have a good wish experience. My advice for volunteer prospects would be to be prepared to be 'wowed'!"



Glenn with wish child, Nathaniel.

Interested in helping out? ocie.wish.org/volunteer



Make-A-Wish[®]

WISHES IN FLIGHT[®]

*I wish to go to the
World Cup*

Liora, 17
malignant kidney tumor

Donate your airline miles
now to help grant more
travel wishes!

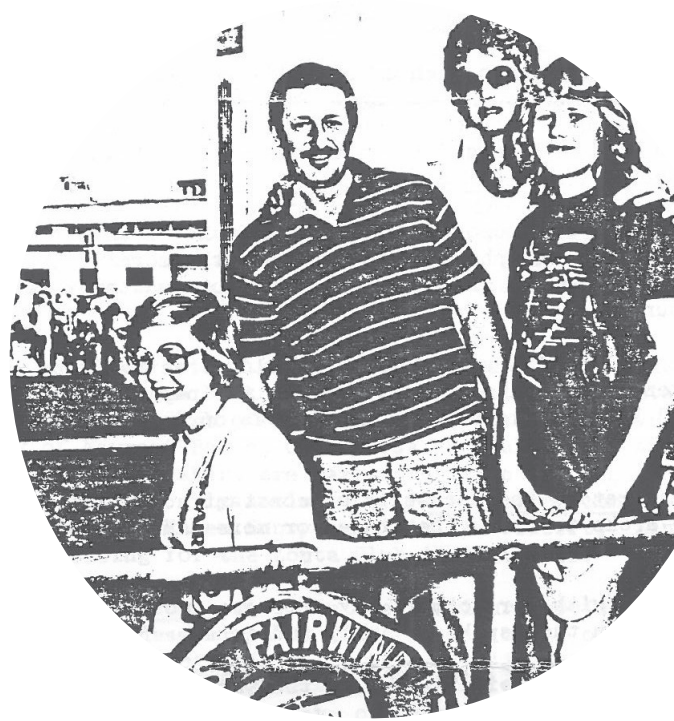
ocie.wish.org/flight



Through the Years

In 1983, our chapter was established when we granted Tamra's wish to see the blue waters of the Caribbean with her family (pictured right).

From the beginning, we knew that *wishes impact not only the wish child, but all those involved*. As the organization grew, we slowly began to grant more wishes year after year with the help of our local community.



Many doctors and medical professionals believe that a granted wish gives children hope and joy, leaving them more willing to comply with treatment. In fact, nearly *80 percent of wish children live long into adulthood*.

That was the case with Selah, (pictured left) on her wish in 1991 at the Walt Disney World® Resort. Today, she is happily married and serves as our Event and Campaign Manager – happy to help grant wishes for future wish kids.

In 2004, the Orange County and Inland Empire chapters merged, allowing for a *territory of more than 28,000 square miles* to serve children battling critical illnesses.

Today, we have *created more than 6,000 life-changing wish experiences* for kids like Avary, from Riverside, who wished to be a professional gymnast (pictured right).

At Make-A-Wish, it takes a *community of more than 600 volunteers to deliver our mission*. It takes the generous support of donors and community partners. It takes a village to create these incredible moments for children and their families. We are forever grateful for your continued support of our wish children and our organization.

Together, we can transform lives one wish at a time.





*I wish to give to my
hospital's Pediatric Unit*

Matthew, 17
Burkitt lymphoma

A WISH TO *GIVE*

"On March 9, 2017 I was diagnosed with Burkitt lymphoma on the fourth floor Pediatric Unit of Kaiser Anaheim. That day changed the course of my life permanently. I was 16 years old and in the middle of my junior year of high school. I now found that instead of having to worry about AP tests and finals, *I had to worry about cancer.*

Learning that I would soon undergo chemotherapy, spending my days locked away on the fourth floor, I thought that I would leave the hospital with a poor experience. My attitude going into treatment was one filled with pain, anger and regret that I expected to continue until my treatment ended in June.

However, my time at the hospital proved my expectations wrong.

My team of doctors, nurses and hospital staff made my journey to recovery so much easier and pleasant not just for me, but for my entire family. Now, when I look back at my time in the hospital, I see love and care before I see pain and sadness.

When Make-A-Wish came along, I knew that I wanted to use my wish to give back to help other kids going through a tough time.

I used my wish to give toys, electronics and musical instruments to the Pediatric Unit at Kaiser because while I was there, I saw many children much younger than I was facing critical illnesses – just like me. I thought that if I could give these patients even half of what the Pediatric Oncology team gave me, then hopefully my wish could help ensure they have an easier time battling their illness. "

- Matthew



"The wish experience itself is incredibly impactful because it provides hope, and hope is so important not just for the patient but for the treatment process itself."

Patients who have hope and that are able to be positive during their treatment - they do better, they eat better and they are more compliant with their treatment. I have been around this for 20 years and I think a wish is incredibly important."

- Dr. Van Winkle, Matthew's Doctor

"When Matthew decided his most heart-felt wish was for him to give it to others...he became an inspiration. Not only will his wish continue to impact children and their families in the hospital, but his wish story has touched many hearts. We all can learn so much from this selfless young man who has impacted the lives of others through his wish."

- Stacy, Child Life Specialist and Make-A-Wish Volunteer



"Matthew's selfless act of sharing in his power of a wish for other kids brought tears to our eyes. In his time of illness, he could only think of how he could relieve the stress and troubles of other kids."

- Susan, Volunteer Wish Granter (left)

"We are honored to be able to support Matthew through all that he has endured and help grant his wish to give to other kids who are going through something similar to what he experienced."

- Janine Lombardi, Chairwoman for the Make-A-Wish Board of Directors (left)



You can help more children experience the power of a wish by making a donation at **ocie.wish.org/summer**

WOMEN'S CIRCLE OF WISHES PRESENTS

It's In The Bag



On Sunday, March 11, the Women's Circle of Wishes hosted its signature event, *It's In The Bag* at the Fashion Island Hotel in Newport Beach. More than 300 women joined in for an afternoon luncheon that featured a silent auction of designer handbags, games and more! Together, the group raised enough to grant 22 wishes for kids battling critical illnesses. We'd like to thank our co-chairs Elisa Tarkeshian and Nichole Story, along with Shari Simmons, Chairwoman of the Women's Circle for a great event



1. Chelsea Trinh and Janet Noquez of Beauty 21 stand in front of the succulent wall at the event.

2. Members of the Women's Circle gather at the Fashion Island Hotel before the event.

3. Wish child, Sage joined the event to share her story and to sing her song "Ain't Done Yet". The teen received a standing ovation from guests.

*Photos courtesy Asea Tremp Photography

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS





On March 15, we hosted *Swish Madness* at Romano's in Downtown Riverside. Guests enjoyed a day full of basketball games, contests, auctions and some special celebrity guests! The event raised enough to grant more than five wishes.



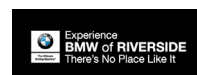
1. Gary Romano, owner of Romano's Restaurant, stands with sports legend Bill Walton.

2. Kekoa (center) shared the story of his wish to go to the NBA All-Star game. He's pictured here with Stan Morrison, Ed Ratleff and Carlos Mina.

3. During the basketball hoop competition, Kekoa scored more than 10 free throw shots in a row!

*Photos courtesy Perfect Focus Photography

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS





Make-A-Wish 35th Birthday Bash: A Walk Through Wishland

On Sunday, April 29, we celebrated 35 years of granting wishes in our local community. More than 700 community members joined us for our **35th Birthday Bash: A Walk Through Wishland** presented by the Disneyland® Resort at [AV] Irvine. Guests enjoyed different wish stations, cake and more!



1. Attendee, Ariana, checks out her new facepaint at the Birthday Bash.

2. Wish child, Francheska stands with her sisters Grace and Alexandra in Disney's Retro Room at the event.

3. Stephanie McCormick, President and CEO of Make-A-Wish Orange County and the Inland Empire, along with Board Members stand with Linda Pauling (front left), the mother of Christopher Greicius, the first Make-A-Wish child.

4. Mickey Mouse joins Make-A-Wish children and families, Stephanie McCormick and Janine Lombardi, Chairwoman of the Board of Directors for a selfie on stage at the event.



*Photos courtesy Brett Padelford and Disney VoluntEARS



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

Disneyland[®]
RESORT

L.A. Girl[®]

L.A. COLORS[®]



HONDA
Center

Sprinkles



parentingOC

McLaren
NEWPORT BEACH

WISH GRANTED

Below are some of the wishes our chapter granted to children living in Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties between December 2017 and May 2018.



I wish to go see my favorite musical
Tegenn, 11
heart condition



I wish to go to the Super Bowl
Matthew, 18
acute lymphoblastic leukemia



I wish to meet my favorite basketball player
Gregory, 7
genetic disorder



I wish to go to the American Girl Doll Store
Amy, 7
acute lymphoblastic leukemia

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

*I wish to have a room
redo*

Raelynn, 3
brain tumor



*I wish to go to the
snow*

Emma, 5
heart condition



WISH *ASSIST*



Wish kids Jackson, Maiyah and Suzy.

These wishes are in addition to the wishes granted for children who live in Orange County and the Inland Empire.

We had another successful year of granting Coachella wishes! A huge thank you to Goldenvoice for their continued support over the years. A special shout out to Jason from Desert Soiree for getting the weekend started for the three wish families!



AT A GLANCE

A look at how our student groups help local wish kids.



The 7th grade classes at Travis Ranch Middle School decided they wanted to grant a wish before the last day of school. Together, they were able to raise enough in just three weeks! Congratulations on adopting your first wish! We can't wait to see what you do next school year.



Students from Capistrano Valley accept their Adopt-A-Wish plaque.

Thank you to our amazing high school students who work so hard to raise funds to grant wishes. Capistrano Valley and El Toro just granted their third wish each!



Students from El Toro accept their Adopt-A-Wish plaque.

Interested in getting your child or their school involved with Make-A-Wish?

Contact us today at
getinvolved@wishocie.org

— MAKE AN IMPACT —

UPCOMING EVENT

Evening of Wishes Gala

Join us on November 3, 2018 at the Waterfront Beach Resort, a Hilton Hotel. Experience the *Magic of a Wish* with dinner, live and silent auctions and a special performance by magician John George! This year our Young Professionals will host a fun after party!

www.ocie.wish.org/gala

PROMOTIONAL CAMPAIGNS

Maggiano's Eat-A-Dish for Make-A-Wish

Calling all Italian cuisine lovers! This summer is the perfect time to indulge in some of your favorite Italian dishes at Maggiano's for a good cause! The 15th annual Eat-A-Dish for Make-A-Wish campaign has officially begun! Now through Aug. 8 you can help Make-A-Wish America grant more transformational wishes when you dine with the Italian food maestros at Maggiano's.

SAVE THE DATE 2019

Swish Madness

Watch all the college basketball games, enjoy food, drinks, auctions and more!

March 21 at Romano's in Riverside.

www.ocie.wish.org/swish

It's In The Bag

Join the Women's Circle of Wishes for an afternoon luncheon with a silent auction of handbags, themed baskets and more!

April 7 at The Fashion Island Hotel in Newport Beach

www.ocie.wish.org/bag

Trailblaze Challenge

Challenge yourself with a 28(ish) mile hike in Big Bear to support wish kids! Join a passionate group of hikers for this great weekend event.

June 7-9 in Big Bear

**Website coming soon!

www.ocie.wish.org/events



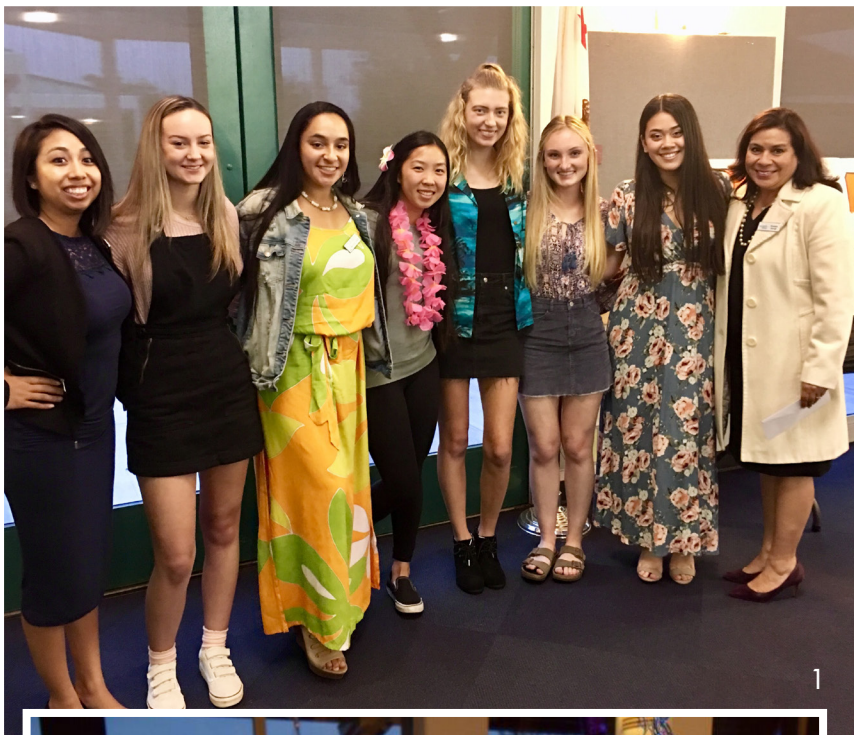
Win a three-night stay at the **Newport Dunes** on the Back Bay, plus a week at **Camp James** for two children when you vote for your Orange County Favorites.

Online Voting only at www.ParentingOC.com

Voting Deadline: July 13, 2018

Winner notified in July and pictured in the September issue of Parenting OC.





Around TOWN

The following are events that raised more than \$5,000 between December 2017 and May 2018.

1. This December, the National Charity League, Rancho Irvine Chapter Ticktocker class of 2019 hosted *An Enchanted Garden Fashion Show*, with proceeds benefiting Make-A-Wish. Thank you NCL for the continued support, volunteer hours and contributions to grant more wishes!

2. Thanks to Crave Personal Training & Boot Camp and High Performance Nutrition for *Push-Ups for Wishes*! This event helped raise more than \$11,000 to grant the wish for a local child by donating \$0.50, \$1, \$2 or \$5 per push-up performed LIVE!

3. Tax & Financial Group hosted its 23rd Annual *"We Care for Kids" Golf Tournament and Benefit Dinner* on May 21. Since the event's inception, more than \$1.8 million dollars have been donated to our chapter.

4. Sterling Financial Advisors matched the amount of money raised at its fundraiser Christmas dinner and raised enough to grant two wishes!



5. For 30 days, 20 men grew their moustaches to raise awareness for kid's charities. Make-A-Wish Orange County and the Inland Empire was the first recipient of more than \$30,000 from Moustaches for Kids - Orange County's first year growing. Thank you, Moustaches for Kids!

★ Calling all Corporate Partners!

Help Make 35 More Wishes Come True!

As we close out our 35th Anniversary Year, we celebrate all the companies and employees who helped us with our Wish Warrior Campaign this past spring. We now strive toward our goal of granting 330 life-changing wishes to children, and are looking for 35 companies to adopt 35 wishes this summer (June 1 through August 31).



Team members from Fluidmaster greet wish child Mikail at LAX.

Fluidmaster initiated our corporate efforts by adopting the first of these special wishes:

"Make-A-Wish has challenged all of us within the business community to adopt a wish child to commemorate each year of their support of these wonderful children who go through so many difficulties, right here in our community. As a local company and employer, we know doing good in our community is good for our business. We at Fluidmaster have stepped up, as have other local businesses, to help our local Make-A-Wish team support the growing needs within Orange County and the Inland Empire by adopting one of these 35 special wishes," said Todd Talbot, President of Fluidmaster.

To learn more about how your company can participate, contact Barbara Powers, Chief Development Officer at bpowers@wishocie.org or 714-573-9474 x 230.



A portrait of Cornelia Haag-Molkenteller, a woman with short brown hair, wearing a white top and a gold necklace. She is standing in front of a lush green wall of succulents. The photo is credited to Asea Tremp Photography.

*Photo courtesy
Asea Tremp Photography

From Germany to Irvine, Cornelia Haag-Molkenteller is known throughout the world as a leader in global clinical development for women's health, internal medicine, anti-infectives and urology. Recently named as the Chief Medical Officer for Urovant Sciences, Cornelia is leading a new team to create advanced medical breakthroughs.

At Make-A-Wish, Cornelia is known as a champion for her passion and dedication to help us grant wishes. A member of the Women's Circle of Wishes, Cornelia also supported its annual "It's In The Bag" event and was instrumental in helping to secure a major corporate sponsor. This event raised more than \$200,000 to support our mission! As a *Champion for Wishes*, Cornelia is part of a committed group of community leaders who adopt several wishes annually for multiple years.

It's amazing how easily one can become entrenched in the volunteer experience and in the organization itself. It can be invigorating and exciting, and it makes the community a better place.

We're very grateful to Cornelia for all her support and engagement!

THANK YOU FOR MAKING WISHES COME TRUE

We extend our deepest appreciation to those that have given donations to help fulfill the dreams of our wish children. The following list represents contributors who gave \$2,500 or more between December 1, 2017 and May 31, 2018. We apologize if we inadvertently left anyone off the list.

COMMUNITY GROUPS:

Morongo Band of Mission Indians
National Charity League Rancho Irvine

CORPORATE DONORS:

99 Ranch Market
Airlinx
Alexander's Mobility Services
Anaheim Ducks
BBVA
Beauty 21 Cosmetics, Inc.
Blue Sky
BMW of Riverside
Bristol Myers Squibb
Build-A-Bear
California Pizza Kitchen
Claire's
Crave Personal Training and Boot Camp
Dave and Buster's
Diagnostic Consulting Network, Inc.
Disneyland® Resort
Dollar Tree Distribution, Inc.
E.M. Transportation, Inc.
Gamestop
Harold Berkman Memorial Fund, Inc
Hayes Martin Associates
HPN
HUB International Limited
Isagenix
jcpSSC, Inc.
KPMG
Los Angeles Chargers
Macy's
Manheim, Inc.
Michel Cruz
Network For Good
Pacific Premier Bank
Ralphs District 6
Red Hat
Sears Hometown & Outlet Stores
Service Champions Heating & Air Conditioning
Small Business Growth Alliance
Sterling Financial Advisors
Subaru of America Inc.
Tawa Services Inc.
The Running Center
The Smile Generation
Toys "R" Us
United Health Group
W. Brown & Associates Insurance Services Inc.
W. L. Butler Construction, Inc.
Watertree
YourCause, LLC Trustee for
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

EVENTS:

"23rd Annual We Care For Kids
Benefit Golf Tournament, Dinner and

Auction Hosted by Tax & Financial Group"
All American Classics
National Charity League Rancho Irvine
Fashion Show
The Running Center

FOUNDATIONS & GRANTS:

Car Donation Foundation
Champions Volunteer Foundation
Charitable Adult Rides & Services, Inc
Charles and Mildred Schnurmacher Foundation
Chisick Family Foundation
Confidence Foundation
Fred Siegel Foundation
Gluck Bradley Foundation-Agency
Hasso Philanthropic Foundation
Karen Child Family Foundation
Maggie and Earl Russell Charitable Foundation
Michael Sweig Foundation
Moustaches for Kids - Orange County
Orange County United Way
PIMCO Foundation
Raymond and Ellen Hegwer Foundation
Riverside Community Health Foundation
Schwab Fund for Charitable Giving
Stanley W. Ekstrom Foundation
The Allergan Foundation
The Crean Foundation
The Goughary Foundation
The James & Glenys Slavik Family Foundation
The Walt Disney Company Foundation
Todd Family Foundation

IN-KIND DONORS:

5 Arch Funding Corp.
Allergan - Irvine
Avis Car Rental
Beauty 21/LA Girls
Blue Sky
Classique Limousines
Disneyland® Resort
Enterprise Holding
Give Kids The World
Image 2000
Irvine Chamber of Commerce
Knott's Berry Farm/Soak City USA
Magic Coach Transportation
Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament
Paradise Pier Hotel
Richard Bracamonte
Sheraton - Waikiki
Tawa Services Inc.
Twila True Jewelry/Watch Expo
Universal Studios Hollywood
Voluspa
Wilson Creek Winery

SCHOOLS & UNIVERSITIES:

Crean Lutheran High School
Fountain Valley High School
Heritage High School
McAuliffe Middle School
Orange Lutheran High School
Phi Gamma Delta/Chapman
Pi Kappa Alpha - UC Irvine
Travis Ranch Middle School
UCI Songfest

INDIVIDUALS:

Anthony and Carie Jernquist-Ferry
Attar Mayssa
Benjamin Wasserman
Bruce A. Greenwood
Candy Levy
Carolyn Chapparo and Delbert T. Montoya
Charlene F. Savage
Chris and Cathi Killian
Corey and Tamae Donaldson
Cornelia Haag-Molkenteller
Daniel and Kathy Welden
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Jason and Lisa Lantgen
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Joanne Maletych
John and Tatum Cain
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Michel Cruz
Mitchell and Gayle Pratt
Retha Champion
Rita J. Marchetti
Robert and Ali Bartholomew
Roger and Elaine Wheeler
Shari A. Simmons
Steven and Cindi Spears



35 Stories of *Summer*

Help us create more stories and
grant more wishes.

ocie.wish.org/summer

Make-A-Wish® Orange County and the Inland Empire
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