

Make-A-Wish Foundation®

of Orange County and the Inland Empire

Orange County Office:

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www.wishocie.org

Inland Empire Office:

3521 Main Street

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MAKE·A·WISH®

FACTS SHEET

THE FOUNDATION

Make-A-Wish® grants the [wishes](#) of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. Founded in 1980 when a group of caring volunteers helped a young boy fulfill his dream of becoming a police officer, Make-A-Wish is one of the world's leading children's charities, with 62 [chapters](#) in the United States and its territories. With the help of generous donors and nearly 25,000 [volunteers](#), Make-A-Wish grants a wish every 38 minutes and has granted more than 200,000 wishes in the United States since its inception. For more information about Make-A-Wish, visit wish.org and discover how you can *share the power of a wish*®.

THE ORANGE COUNTY & INLAND EMPIRE CHAPTER VISION

Since 1983, Make-A-Wish Orange County and the Inland Empire has granted more than 4,500 wishes to children in Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties. The chapter employs a staff of 22 and relies exclusively on a volunteer base of more than 400 to perform wish granting, as well as most of its vital activities and functions. For more information about the chapter, visit www.ocie.wish.org.

The chapter's vision is to grant the wish of each eligible child in our region who has reached the age of 2½ years and is under age 18, and who has a life-threatening medical condition, i.e., a progressive, degenerative or malignant medical condition that has placed the child's life in jeopardy. Through their wish experience, we want the children and families to find the hope they need to transform life-threatening illnesses into life-affirming triumphs.

FULFILLING WISHES

To qualify for a wish, the child must be older than 2½ years old and younger than 18 (at the time of referral) and must not have received a wish from another wish-granting organization. A child can be referred to Make-A-Wish by a parent or guardian, a medical professional, or by the child. The wish program staff confirms that a child is eligible following the national Foundation's guidelines. Our local chapter has never refused to grant an eligible child's wish.

WISH EXPENSES

The average cost to fulfill a wish is \$6,500, plus an additional in-kind donation of more than \$2,000. Wishes are granted at no expense to the wish family with all costs covered such as airline tickets, hotels, rental cars, meals and expense money. Make-A-Wish finances its work through the generous contributions of individuals, corporate sponsors, planned gifts and grants. In-kind donations of goods and services such as frequent flier miles and hotel loyalty points also help finance our mission.

CONTACTS

Questions about our wish program?

Contact Christina Sandoval at csandoval@wishocie.org

Want to refer a wish child?

Contact Monica Fierro at mfierro@wishocie.org

Interested in hosting a fundraiser for us?

Contact Sarah Pizzaruso at pizzaruso@wishocie.org

Volunteer with our chapter!

Contact Marissa McGuire at mmcguire@wishocie.org

Share the Power of a Wish®