

Make-A-Wish Foundation® International
4742 North 24th Street, Suite 400
Phoenix, Arizona 85016-4862, USA
Toll Free: 800-965-9474
Tel: +1 602.230.9900
Fax: +1 602.230.9627
www.worldwish.org



Make-A-Wish Foundation® International Fast Facts

- Make-A-Wish Foundation® International's mission is to grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy.
- Make-A-Wish Foundation International serves children outside the United States while the Make-A-Wish Foundation of America serves children within the United States. Both headquarters are located in Phoenix, Arizona.
- Since its inception in 1980, the Foundation has collectively granted the wishes of more than 280,000 children with life-threatening medical conditions around the world.
- In 2010 alone, over 22,000 wishes were granted. 13,580 were granted by the Make-A-Wish Foundation of America and 8,881 were granted outside of the United States, led by affiliates of Make-A-Wish Foundation International.
- There are 36 affiliates of Make-A-Wish Foundation International serving children in 47 countries. Since 2009, 5 new affiliates have officially joined the organization, which highlights the rapid growth of the mission around the world. These new affiliates include Malaysia, Pakistan, Spain, Turkey and finally Thailand, the newest affiliate in 2010.
- Each year, over 30,000 volunteers generously give their time, talents and energy to fulfill the Make-A-Wish® mission around the globe.
- To qualify for a wish, the child must be at least 3 years of age, but have not yet reached their 18th birthday and must not have received a wish from another wish-granting organization. A child can be referred to the Make-A-Wish Foundation by a parent or guardian, a medical professional, or by the child.
- Following referral, a physician must certify that the child has a life-threatening medical condition. There are no other qualifications based on sex, race, religion, socioeconomic status or any other demographic category.
- Typically children's wishes fall into four categories: To Be (e.g., a zookeeper, a firefighter, a baker), To Meet (e.g., a favorite celebrity or athlete), To Have (e.g., a computer, a playhouse, a puppy), or To Go (e.g., to a theme park, the beach, a major sporting event).
- For the seventh straight year, Make-A-Wish Foundation International has received the highest four-star rating from Charity Navigator, for allocating and growing its finances in the most fiscally responsible way.

- For every dollar donated to Make-A-Wish Foundation International, more than 83 percent goes towards wish granting, which exceeds program service allocation standards set forth by the international charity watchdog groups.
- The United Nation’s Department of Public Information has honored Make-A-Wish Foundation International by selecting it to be associated with the UN as a Non-Governmental Organization.

The Make-A-Wish mission and message are about the life-affirming, hope-giving aspects of the wish experience. We never use the words “terminal” or “dying” to refer to a wish child, nor do we unduly emphasize a child’s illness, medical treatment or death.