

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

# 20 22



*I wish to be a  
firefighter!*  
**Colin, 4**  
Orange County  
brain tumor

FISCAL YEAR 2022  
ANNUAL REPORT

# SPARK JOY WITH THE MAGIC OF A WISH

## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT & BOARD CHAIR

At Make-A-Wish Orange County and the Inland Empire we are committed to ensuring that no child waits even one unnecessary day to experience the hope and joy that a wish brings. While the effects of the pandemic were still very prevalent this past fiscal year, our team continued to adapt to grant wishes for our wish kids. With the phased approach to granting both large gathering and domestic travel wishes beginning in late June 2022, the fiscal year was truly one of emergence. At the close of the year, we were able to grant an incredible 247 wishes.

In fiscal year 2022, we ramped up not only with wishes, but events as well. After two years without them, we returned to in-person events and we did it bigger than ever. We connected with the community and raised funds at the five events we hosted and over 20 community sponsored events. One of our most unique events was *Galaxy of Wishes*, a once in a lifetime fundraising event that took place inside the gates of Disneyland Resort® at *Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge*. This star studded and magical event raised over \$870,000 for local wishes.

**This year**, we celebrate a milestone of **40 years** of granting wishes! While we celebrate year-long, our goal is to maintain momentum to grant the wishes of the over 500 wish kids that are waiting for their wish to be granted. We have a strategic plan set in place to raise funds needed to move forward wishes.

We know, with your support we can create the hope that is needed in all our wish families lives. Thank you for your continued support.



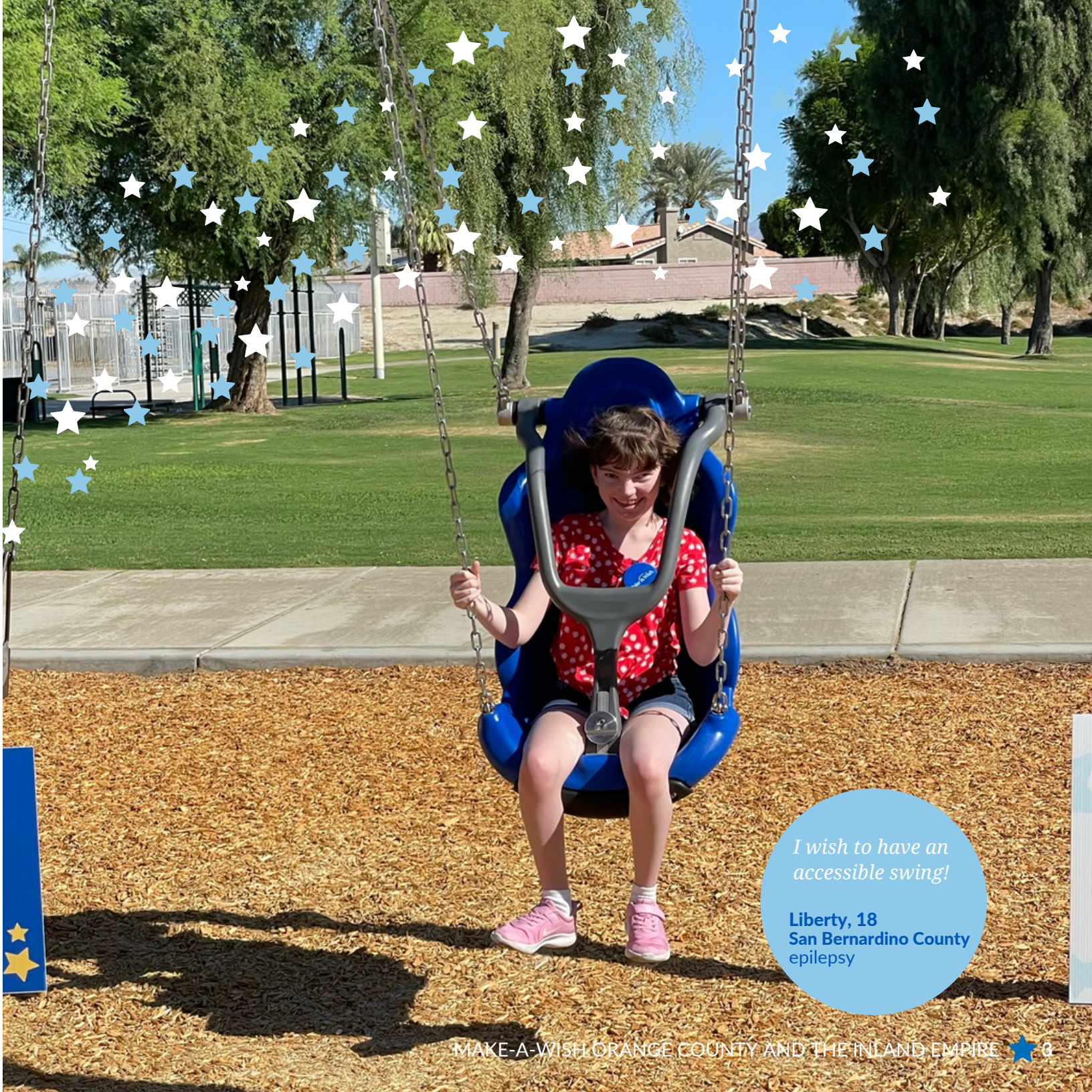
*Gloria Crockett*

**Gloria Jetter Crockett**  
President & CEO



*Whit Batchelor*

**Whit Batchelor**  
Board Chair



*I wish to have an accessible swing!*

**Liberty, 18**  
San Bernardino County  
epilepsy

A YEAR OF ADAPTING, EMERGENCE, & WISHES

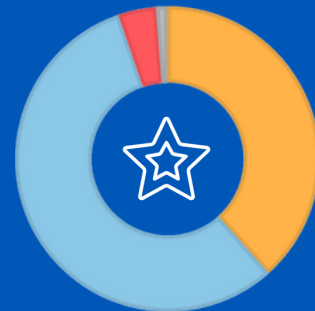
# 247

TOTAL NUMBER OF WISHES GRANTED



WISHES BY COUNTY

- ★ 84 Orange
- ★ 100 Riverside
- ★ 63 San Bernardino
- ★ 46 Wish Assist\*



WISHES BY CATEGORIES

- ★ 95 To Go
- ★ 139 To Have
- ★ 10 To Meet
- ★ 3 To Be

\*Wish assists are wishes that come into our territory and are counted in the wish kids home chapter.

WISHES BY TYPE

- ★ 58 Shopping Spree
- ★ 23 Electronics
- ★ 5 Playset
- ★ 52 Domestic Travel
- ★ 10 Computer
- ★ 5 Animal
- ★ 43 Disney
- ★ 7 Room Redo
- ★ 44 Other

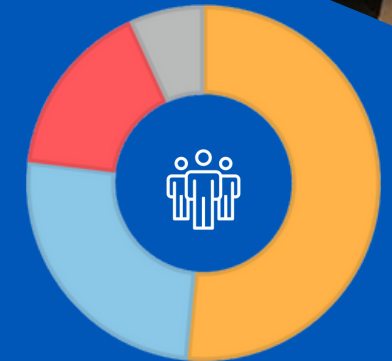


*I wish to have a gaming computer!*

**Emmanuel, 14**  
Riverside County  
sickle cell disease

# 468

TOTAL NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS



VOLUNTEERS BY COUNTY

- ★ 241 Orange
- ★ 119 Riverside
- ★ 76 San Bernardino
- ★ 32 Out of Territory



# Part of the Team

Myka was diagnosed with a congenital heart defect which required two open heart surgeries while she was just an infant. Despite the possibility of more surgeries and complications down the line, Myka has been thriving. "I won't stop," Myka said. "And I'll always push myself."

It's this impressive mindset that has pushed her to be the quarterback for her Yorba Linda flag football team and to continue to work on making her dream of being the first woman to play in the NFL come true.

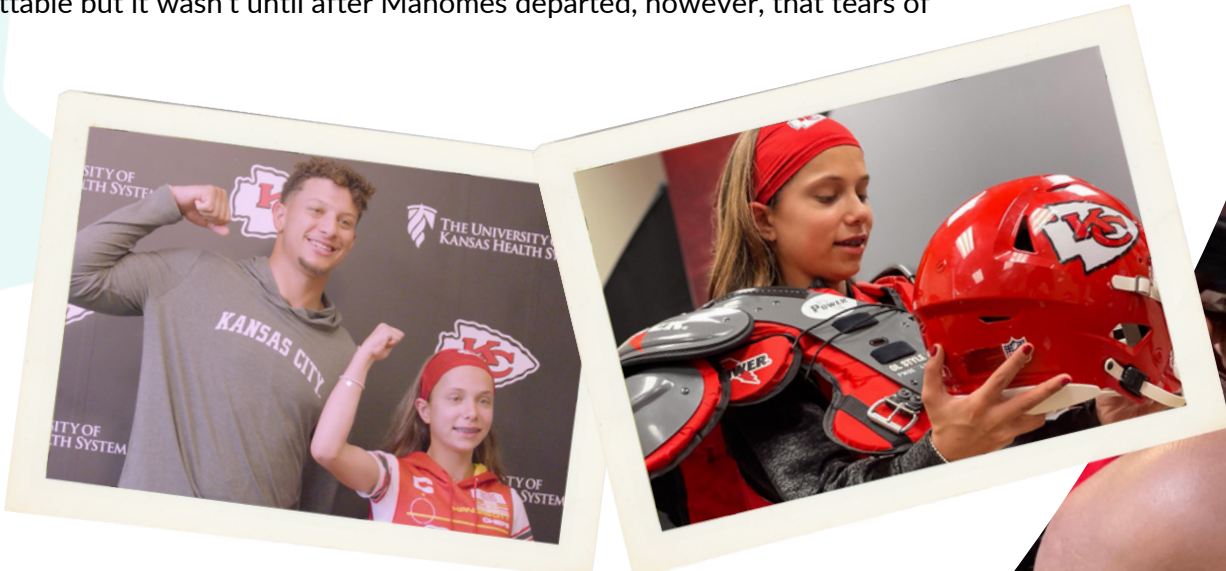
Myka got a taste of that dream when her wish to meet Patrick Mahomes was granted! On a sunny Saturday afternoon, Myka was surprised by Chiefs mascot "KC Wolf" in her backyard at her home. KC Wolf gave her a note informing her that in just a couple of days she'd be traveling to Kansas City to meet football superstar, Patrick Mahomes.

On her wish day, Myka and her family received a tour of Arrowhead Stadium in Kansas City and when they got to the locker room, her first surprise awaited. She geared up in her personalized jersey that she found hanging at her locker stall and was instructed to join the rest of the team, including her heroes, Patrick Mahomes and Travis Kelce, on the practice field.

After Mahomes showed Myka a couple of moves, she was instantly executing plays perfectly. Mahomes started to feel the heat and told Myka "Don't take my spot, though. You can't throw it too good."

Myka's day as a Kansas City Chief was unforgettable but it wasn't until after Mahomes departed, however, that tears of joy streamed down Myka's face.

*I wish to meet Patrick Mahomes!*  
**Myka, 12**  
Orange County  
congenital heart defect



*"Today has been amazing, It has made her feel so special. We couldn't have envisioned this in our wildest dreams."  
- Angela, Myka's mom*

# 2022 Wish Impact Study

In 2010, Make-A-Wish led a study that defined the impact of wishes on the children, siblings, parents, and medical professionals that are part of the wish journey. The first-of-its-kind study provided quantitative measures of the impact of the Make-A-Wish mission.

In 2022, this research has been expanded to a much larger population of Make-A-Wish families and medical professionals who overwhelmingly agree the positive effects of a wish can include improved physical, emotional and mental strength and well-being.

## Long-Term Impact



The impact of a wish lasts far beyond the hope and joy a child feels during their wish experience.

**9 out of 10** medical providers

observed that the wish experience has a positive impact on a child's physical well-being and overall quality of life.

## Turning Point



The Wish Journey is often a pivotal experience during a wish kid's treatment and recovery.

**9 out of 10** wish kids

reported that they felt more joyful, confident, and hopeful for their future.

## Trauma Relief



A wish provides much needed relief from the trauma and stress caused by a child's critical illness.

**9 out of 10** medical providers

observed that the wish experience helped relieve a family from traumatic stress.

## Strength to Fight



The Wish Journey gives children something to look forward to and renews their strength to fight their illness.

**8 out of 10** wish parents

say a child's wish experience serves as a coping mechanism during treatment.

## Emotional & Mental Well-Being



Wishes have a positive impact on the emotional well-being of wish kids, their families, and those involved in a wish.

**8 out of 10** wish kids

reported that their wish experience helped them overcome hopelessness, depression, and loneliness.

**90%**

*of wish alumni said their wish gave them confidence and boosted their self-esteem.*

At five years old, Nathan dreams of being able to drive a real car. Since he's a little too young for his license, Nathan wished for a Power Wheels car to drive and zoom around his yard. On his wish day, Nathan was presented with his personalized license plate and his very own car! Now you can find Nathan confidently cruising around the streets of San Bernardino in his flashy new car with his sibling riding in his passenger seat. He always wears his Captain America helmet - his favorite hero who inspired him to stay strong through his treatment for lymphoma.



*I wish to have a power wheels car!*

**Nathan, 5**  
San Bernardino County  
lymphoma

**95%**

*of wish parents said their child's wish brought their family closer together.*

Meet Sonya, a 13-year-old aspiring fashion designer from Moreno Valley! While in treatment for her bone cancer, she sketched clothing designs and wished for a sewing machine to bring them to life! On her wish day, Sonya received her sewing machine, fabric, and classes to grow in her passion for fashion. Since her wish, Sonya has been designing and sewing blankets and clothes for her mom, cousins, and even her dog! She has found it has been a great way for her to connect with her family.



*I wish to have a sewing machine!*

**Sonya, 13**  
Riverside County  
bone cancer

## Virtual Shopping Spree of Hope

Damian has always thought of others before himself. At 12 years old, he loves to play video games with his four siblings, and despite his health challenges, he is always full of joy. Damian's health journey began with a blood disorder diagnosis, but unfortunately that was the beginning of Damian's health struggles.

Additional tests showed that Damian required a bone marrow transplant which his family scheduled immediately. Moments after his transplant, Damian's family got the terrifying news that he had a brain hemorrhage. Damian was rushed to the ICU where he had to undergo days of isolated recovery.

When Damian was stable enough for his parents to come visit him, he was finally able to start the transplant recovery process. His recovery included a staggering 100-day hospital stay filled with extended periods of isolation and painful procedures.

While he spent months in the hospital away from his family, the promise of a wish gave Damian a reason to hope. He knew that he wanted something that he could share with his siblings. Since he spent so much time away from them, he wanted to wish for something special that they could all enjoy together. Damian knew that, more than anything, he wanted to have a shopping spree to pick out special toys and games that both he and his siblings could enjoy together.

While still recovering in the hospital, he had fun filling up his virtual shopping cart with everything he wanted! He was able to video chat with his siblings to find out exactly what they wanted to add for each of them. The day he got his chest catheter removed was the same day he finally finished his shopping spree list.

When Damian got home from his long hospital stay, he was surprised with a wish party, complete with pizza and all the toys and games from his shopping list. He enjoyed unwrapping every item, all while being surrounded by his family. Damian's wish created hope for his family and something to look forward to after long stays away from home.



*I wish to have a shopping spree!*

**Damian, 12**  
Riverside County  
blood disorder



# The Community Behind Wishes

As we reflect on 2022, we thank some of the individuals and corporate partners whose support helped us grant 247 wishes this past fiscal year. Because of the creativity, generosity, and commitment of countless donors, partners, volunteers, and supporters of the Make-A-Wish mission, we are able to create life-changing wishes.

## The Anthony & Carie Ferry Foundation



As the founders of The Anthony and Carie Ferry Foundation, Carie Jernquist-Ferry and Anthony Ferry have a philanthropic mission shared by their family and colleagues. Since 2017, Carie has participated on our Board of Directors and has dedicated her time in support groups and committees such as the Community and Individual Engagement Committee and Women's Circle of Wishes. As a presenting sponsor at *Galaxy of Wishes* and longtime supporter of *It's In The Bag*, The Anthony and Carie Ferry Foundation's support has been critical to creating life-changing wishes this past fiscal year. We asked Carie what motivates her to continue to give back to wishes through our chapter:

"The first time I saw a wish granted, it just pulled at my heartstrings. We're very fortunate to have six wonderful, healthy, and happy kids, and a bad day in their life is really nothing like what some of these wish kids go through. If we can be here and raise funds [for wishes] to help make that happen, then that's a great day for all of us."



## The Legacy of Aaron Norris



Aaron Norris was a deeply beloved and admired member of the community dedicated to giving to others. While fighting his own battle with cancer, Aaron found no issue continuing to pursue his life passions, especially when it came to philanthropy. Through The Norris Group's "I Survived Real Estate" Gala, Aaron continuously encouraged and inspired those around him, by donating 100% of all proceeds raised by tickets and sponsorships directly benefiting Make-A-Wish Orange County and the Inland Empire and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. After his passing, we remember a legacy that he left is full of love and positivity for the community.

For fifteen years, The Norris Group has deeply supported Make-A-Wish, donating over \$1 million towards our chapter. Located in Riverside, this family-owned business is dedicated to serving the community, supporting local charities and nonprofit organizations, and providing award-winning services to help real estate professionals succeed. We're incredibly grateful and honored to work with The Norris Group, as they help and promote our mission to make every wish come true.

*"Support for Make-A-Wish comes down to one simple word: hope. For one moment in time, a sincere act of kindness in granting a wish affects all those participating in the wish and beyond. Anyone that has dealt with a close family or friend with a critical illness knows how important and powerful hope can be. We are glad to have been a part of that equation by partnering with the Orange County and Inland Empire chapter and bringing that hope to residents in our backyard."*

-Joey Romero, The Norris Group



## Volunteer Spotlight - Mark & Shelly Hutchason

Mark and Shelly's involvement with Make-A-Wish started 17 years ago after their son, who was battling a critical illness at the time, inspired them to get involved. Their son has since overcome his illness and is now a doctor helping countless others.

The two make a fantastic Wish Granting team and are a true delight to work with. While they live in the High Desert, they have granted hundreds of wishes in all three of our counties, especially in cities where we have fewer volunteers. Mark and Shelly support Make-A-Wish in every way they can. This past fiscal year, Mark assisted with stewarding a large company who has become a great supporter of wishes. We thank Mark and Shelly Hutchason for always going above and beyond for our wish kiddos and their dedication to our mission.

*"I've assembled 3 swing set kits from Costco and always worried when there are left-over nuts, bolts, screws and washers. That is always overshadowed by the joy the Wish Kid has when they can play freely with family and loved ones"*

-Mark Hutchason



Speaking of volunteers, we are in need of volunteers of all types to help move forward our mission. Learn more at [wish.org/ocie/volunteer](http://wish.org/ocie/volunteer) or call (714) 573-9474

## Take me out to the Ballgame

Meet Shiloh, a 3-year-old wish kid from Upland who recently had a kidney transplant. Shiloh loves the San Francisco Giants, and has always wanted to visit their home stadium. When thinking of his most heartfelt wish, Shiloh wished to go to San Francisco for a behind-the-scenes tour of Oracle Park with his parents!

Shiloh's wish trip was so important to him and his family and couldn't have come at a better time. Because he was unable to travel due to his daily 10-hour dialysis regiments, they had never been on a family vacation. Shiloh's wish trip gave his family hope for a future after all the traumatic and long hospital stays.

While on his wish trip, Shiloh got to experience his first time on a subway which he would happily jump up and down on every time he got to ride it, a trip to the Lego store where he got to pick out some new toys, and a tour of the ballpark. Shiloh's wish trip gave him and his family the ability to spend quality time together and make new memories together outside of the hospital.

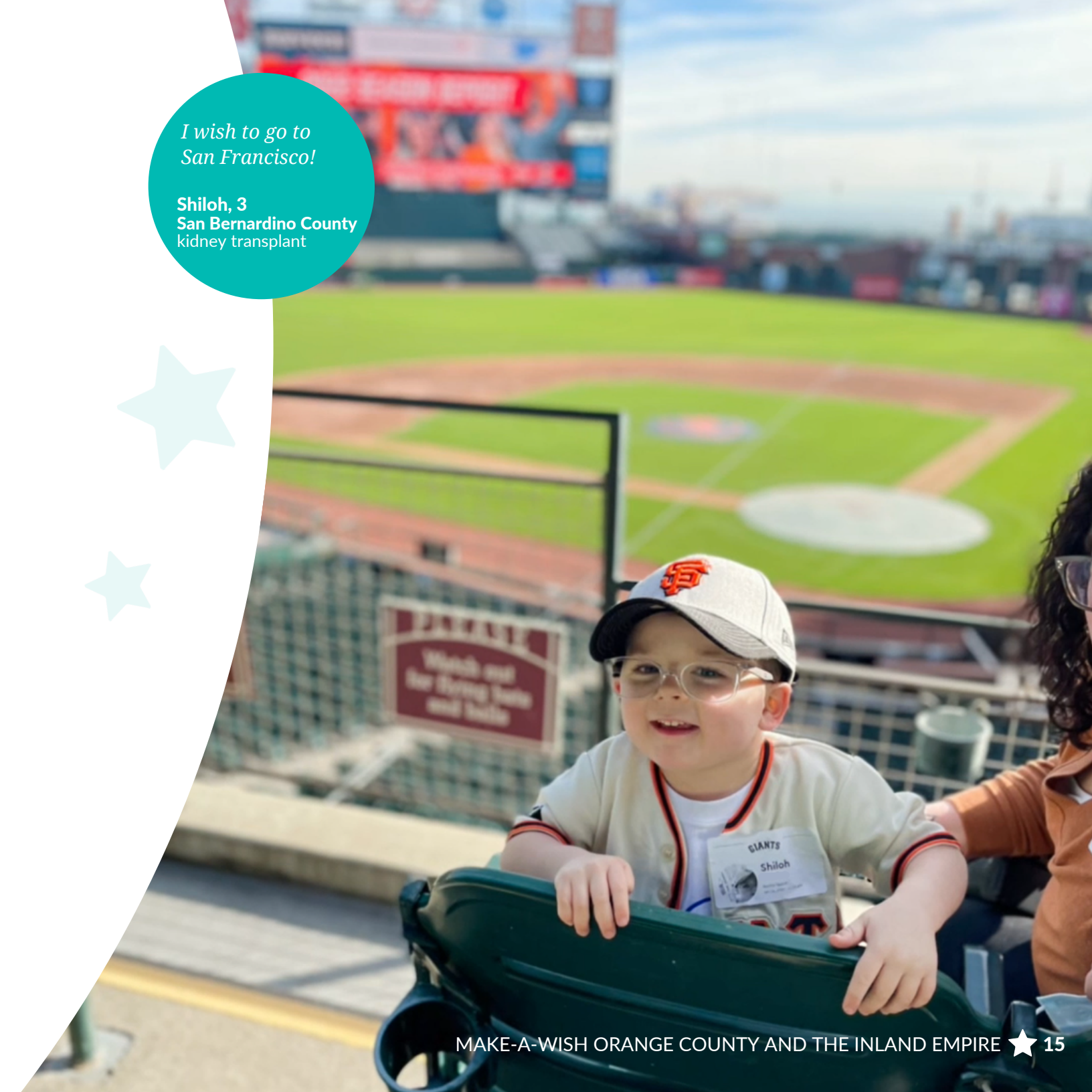
We spoke with Shiloh's dad, Justin, a couple months after his wish trip. He said Shiloh still talks about his wish trip, "We will literally be at a restaurant, and he'll be like 'I went to San Francisco!' to the waiter and proceed to tell them about his trip". When we asked Justin what Shiloh's favorite part of the trip was, he said, "Shiloh loved every part of his wish trip so much that it was even difficult for him to pick a favorite moment! He literally had the time of his life!! We are so grateful!"

Thanks to generous donors and supporters, like you, Shiloh and his family were able to create life-long memories.



*I wish to go to  
San Francisco!*

**Shiloh, 3**  
San Bernardino County  
kidney transplant





# Fiscal Year 2022 Events

Thanks to our incredible supporters, we raised over \$1.5 Million, to support wish granting efforts in 2022.

## Trailblaze Challenge

Hikers embarked on a 28-mile hike on the Pacific Crest Trail in Big Bear and collectively raised critical funds to support wishes. Before their hike, guests were treated to an inspiring visit by local wish kid, Rebekah. Her wish for braces was about to be granted and she shared her excitement with the group. President and CEO, Gloria Jetter Crockett hiked alongside our supporters on the scenic walk through the wilderness.



## Pickleball for Wishes

The first and second annual *Pickleball for Wishes* tournaments presented by CAIN Real Estate Group encouraged beginner and intermediate players to raise their paddles for wishes. Wish kid Shiloh and his family shared at the tournament how Shiloh's wish to go to San Francisco helped the young family experience normalcy outside a hospital for the first time.



## Colin's Day as a Hero

At four years old, Colin has been through more than most kids, and even adults. He dreams about protecting his family and saving the day in a big truck. Colin wished to be a firefighter! He joined the local Anaheim fire fighters to learn about protecting others and being a hero. On his wish day, Colin was able to ride in a fire truck, extinguish confetti flames with a fire hose, relax in the firehouse and, most importantly, gain hope for the future. As Colin continues treatment, we know that the memories of his wish day have created life-long happy memories for him and his family.

*I wish to be a firefighter!*

**Colin, 4**  
Orange County  
brain tumor



## It's In The Bag

The Women's Circle of Wishes, a support group of our chapter, transformed The Waterfront Beach Resort in Huntington Beach for a fashionable Kentucky Derby themed luncheon. Over 200 attendees took part in the famous wine wall, live and silent auction, and were inspired by wish kid, Grace who shared the lasting the power of a wish.



## Galaxy of Wishes

We joined forces with our friends at the Greater Los Angeles chapter for a star-studded event held in *Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge* at the Disneyland Resort. Presented by The Anthony and Carie Ferry Foundation, the celebrity-filled event included *Star Wars* actor and wish granter, Mark Hamill, performances by musical guest Fitz and the Tantrums, Lisa Lisa Velez, Morris Day, Montell Jordan, and DJ Cassidy, while we honored Dean and Susie Spanos from the Los Angeles Chargers as the Ambassadors of Hope. The night was a once in-a-lifetime experience that raised more than \$870,000 to support wishes for our chapter.



### UPCOMING EVENTS:

Visit [wish.org/ocie/events](http://wish.org/ocie/events) to learn more!

#### *Pickleball for Wishes*

**Saturday, July 29, 2023 | Tennis & Pickleball Club at Newport Beach**  
Get your company involved, bring your coworkers and enjoy a day of pickleball as we serve it up for wishes!

#### *The Make-A-Wish Gala*

**Saturday, October 21, 2023 | Balboa Bay Resort**  
Join us for the signature Make-A-Wish Gala of the year and experience the magic of a wish.

# Board of Directors

**Whit Batchelor**

**BOARD CHAIR**

Senior Vice President, Whittier Trust

**Jesse Chang**

**TREASURER**

Senior Business Systems Analyst Capital Group

**Jeff Lewis**

**SECRETARY/GOVERNANCE CHAIR**

Senior Vice President, US Bank

**Dr. Joffre Olaya**

**CHAIR - MEDICAL ADVISORY**

CHOC Pediatric Neurosurgeon

**Carie Jernquist-Ferry**

**CHAIR - COMMUNITY/INDIVIDUAL ENGAGEMENT**

Community Philanthropist

**Mike Colonna**

**CHAIR - MISSION DELIVERY**

Former Restaurant President & CEO

**Mark Carlos, ALSA**

Executive Director Design Group & Pre-Development, BrightView

**Corey Donaldson**

Owner, Avalon Properties

**Joone Kim-Lopez**

General Manager, Moulton Niguel Water District

**Jason Lantgen**

Senior Vice President, JLL

**Kristen Lipton**

Managing Director, Gallup

**RJ Mayer**

CEO, The Mayer Corporation

**Dolores Salman**

Global Head of Environmental, Health & Safety, Netflix Inc.

**Shari Simmons**

Philanthropist

**Joel Sprague**

Robert R. Sprague Foundation

**Komron Tarkeshian**

Regional Sales Manager, Origin Point

**Kris Theiler**

Vice President, Disneyland Park

**Kimberly J. Worsnop**

Philanthropist

**Michael L. Zemetra**

Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer, Veritone

# FISCAL YEAR 2022 FINANCIALS



★ Public Support **72%**  
 ★ Special Events **22%**  
 ★ Other **6%**

**Total Revenue \$ 4,438,119**

★ Program **69%**  
 ★ Fundraising **16%**  
 ★ Management & General **15%**

**Total Functional Expense \$4,501,267**



\*In taking all precautions during the pandemic, we were unable to grant certain types of wishes safely. Thus our program ratio decreased from 72% pre-pandemic to 69%. We have a recovery plan in place to increase our ratio as COVID-19 safety protocols are lifted, and we have already seen a program ratio increase in our current fiscal year.

# Make-A-Wish<sup>®</sup>

ORANGE COUNTY AND  
THE INLAND EMPIRE

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

[wish.org/ocie](https://www.wish.org/ocie)



**Orange County**  
**714-573-9474**

3230 El Camino Real, Suite 100  
Irvine, CA 92602

**Inland Empire**  
**951-321-0179**

1700 Iowa Ave, Suite 110  
Riverside, CA 92507

**New Address as of May 2023**