

ABOUT MAKE-A-WISH®



Gabriella, 4, diagnosed with Wilms' tumour, wished to have a cubby house and eat fried chicken in it with her family.

Make-A-Wish grants wishes for children and young people with life-threatening medical conditions.

Our wishes give hope, strength and joy when most needed and have been shown through international research to have a remarkably positive effect on a child's mental, emotional and physical wellbeing.

With a healing power that goes beyond that of medicine alone, Make-A-Wish wishes are an essential complement to a child's medical treatment. This unique power reaches families and communities too – bringing them together in hope and celebration.

Expert in wish granting, Make-A-Wish reaches seriously-ill children in 49 countries. In Australia, our national network of over 1,100 dedicated volunteers makes it possible to grant wishes for children in all States and Territories.

Thanks to our generous supporters, and the tireless efforts of our volunteers, over 7,000 life-changing wishes have been granted in Australia since 1985.

The wishes we grant are as varied as the imaginations of the children who make them. Whether it's a wish to be a fireman, to meet a hero, or to swim with dolphins, each and every one is uniquely inspired. Yet they all have one thing in common – the ability to give incredible joy and the power to make a life-changing difference.

1800 032 260 | makeawish.org.au

Make-A-Wish® Australia grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy.

MAKE-A-WISH®
Australia

LIAM, 6, DIAGNOSED WITH IPEX SYNDROME, WISHED FOR A SUPER MARIO THEMED BIRTHDAY PARTY.



Six-year-old Liam has IPEX syndrome – a life-threatening condition that causes his immune system to fight against its own tissues and organs. His symptoms began when he was just two weeks old, but it took two-and-a-half years and many hospital visits before his diagnosis was made.

Liam endures many ongoing treatments for his condition, some of them very distressing, but he takes it all in his stride. His mum, Natasha, says, "Liam is one of the strongest little boys I know. He accepts his way of life with a huge smile and up-beat personality."

A bone marrow transplant meant several months of enforced hospital isolation for Liam. He even had to spend his sixth birthday alone.

Knowing he would be without friends and family on his birthday, Liam chose an early birthday party as his cherished wish.

With support from generous donors, Liam's wish came true and he was able to enjoy his Super Mario themed birthday party wish just before going into hospital for the transplant.

The party was full of his favourite things. All 140 guests were invited to turn up in Super Mario costumes, dance to Liam's favourite music and enjoy 2 Minute Noodles, ham, biscuits and soft drink! They were also treated to a jumping castle, snow cones and lolly bags, not to mention entertainment from Liam's favourite magician, Johnny the Jester.

Natasha was amazed by the wish and the impact it had: "Liam's wish has had such a positive impact on Liam and our family. Make-A-Wish® gave us a day to forget our troubles and focus on the good things in life. It truly was a magical experience and we thank Make-A-Wish from the bottom of our hearts," she said.

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MAKE·A·WISH®
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OLIVIA, 4, DIAGNOSED WITH OVARIAN CANCER, WISHED TO SWIM WITH DOLPHINS.



Olivia's Mum, Jenny, is someone who knows the life-changing impact a Make-A-Wish® wish can have first-hand. Her youngest daughter, Olivia, was diagnosed with ovarian cancer at just four years of age.

When Olivia first complained of a tummy ache, Jenny didn't think much of it. But when her daughter began to wake in the night because of the pain, she grew worried.

After several visits to the local emergency room, Jenny was convinced that something wasn't right and insisted the doctor carry out further testing.

An ultrasound was arranged which revealed a significant mass. Surgery was scheduled immediately.

After the operation, Olivia's parents were terrified to learn that a 1.5 kilogram ovarian tumour had been discovered and that it was cancerous.

As Olivia began treatment, life changed for her whole family. Her older siblings were sent to stay with friends and family. Meanwhile, Mum and Dad did all they could to help their youngest child through painful treatment while juggling life's many other commitments.

Knowing a Make-A-Wish wish would be of enormous benefit to Olivia, hospital staff suggested contacting Make-A-Wish. Sure enough, with the promise of something life-changing ahead, treatment didn't seem quite so bad. The whole family's focus shifted to Olivia's wish to swim with dolphins and how amazing it would be when it came true.

When it did, it was everything they could have imagined and more. Olivia's favourite moment? Cuddling a dolphin of course!

Jenny said the wish was all the more precious because it gave Olivia something positive to share with her siblings.

"The other kids also went through a hard time. While Olivia was sick they were not only without their sister, they also had to cope in unfamiliar surroundings without Mum and Dad. It was great to enjoy the wish as a family. To see all my children happy and enjoying each other's company again was priceless."

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FAE, 6, DIAGNOSED WITH NEUROBLASTOMA, WISHED FOR A PONY.



*The moment Fae's wish was granted was truly heart-melting.
A special celebration in a picturesque orchard setting, attended by over
100 guests, added to a day Fae will never forget.*

It was a joyous occasion and an absolute world away from all Fae and her family had been through following her diagnosis with neuroblastoma – a nerve centre cancer – 18 months earlier.

Six-year-old Fae underwent an unimaginably difficult treatment regime. But her parents, Toni and Glen, say she remained upbeat and positive throughout, never really complaining at all. They are certain that thinking about her wish coming true and having something to work towards were a big part of this.

A ride on a pony a little more than a month after her diagnosis and Fae fell instantly in love! Toni said she just didn't stop talking about horses and how much she'd

enjoyed the ride. This newfound and all-consuming passion led Fae to wish for a pony of her own.

The dream of her wish coming true kept Fae inspired, even during the hardest treatment days. And when it did come true, there wasn't a dry eye in sight. Everyone involved was touched by Fae's reaction and felt the uplifting impact of a Make-A-Wish wish first-hand.

Fae's mum Toni says, "A wish is just what a child needs when they have gone through so much treatment and so much heartache – and the families as well. Without Make-A-Wish things like this just wouldn't happen for children. It's amazing."

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YOU CAN HELP US REACH OUR VISION TO GRANT 2,000 WISHES!

*Your donation will help grant wishes like these to children
with life-threatening medical conditions.*

\$2,200 could grant...
a wish for a pony



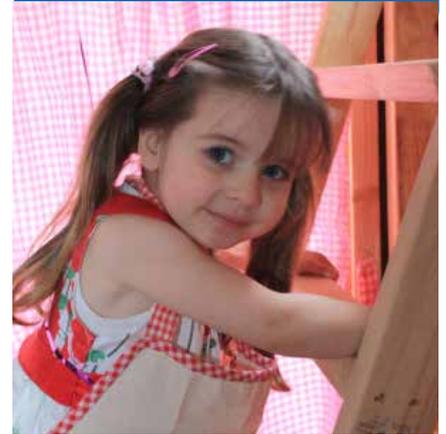
Fae, 6, diagnosed with neuroblastoma, wished for a pony.

\$4,500 could grant...
a wish for a special party



Liam, 6, diagnosed with IPEX syndrome, wished for a Super Mario party.

\$8,200 could grant...
a wish for a cubby house



Sabrina, 4, diagnosed with a chronic kidney condition, wished for a cubby house.

\$10,400 could grant...
*a wish to go to the
Gold Coast*



Olivia, 4, diagnosed with ovarian cancer, wished to go on a family holiday and swim with dolphins.

\$17,600 could grant...
*five wishes to be a pirate
for the day*



Lukas, 6, diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia, wished to be a pirate for the day.

\$20,400 could grant...
*twelve wishes for laptop
computers*



Jade, 9, diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia, wished for a laptop computer.

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