With Gratitude

We would like to recognize longtime friend and supporter, Robert Paglia, for his three years of service as Chair of the Make-A-Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island Board of Directors. Bob recently stepped down from this role, but remains an active member of the Board. Volunteer leaders like Bob are an important part of the Make-A-Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island family. On behalf of all of the children whose lives you have positively impacted, thank you, Bob!

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Make-A-Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island
Dear Friends,

Wishes are powerful. For children, a wish come true can give them the courage to face their medical treatments. In turn, parents finally feel like they can be optimistic. And, our supporters often realize all they have to offer the world through volunteer work or philanthropy.

The notion of touching many people is reflected in our recently refreshed brand. You may have noted the new Make-A-Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island logo and look. As part of our refreshed brand, we also have an updated mission statement: Together, we create life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses.

This new mission statement does not mean that what we strive for every day is changing. What it does do is emphasize that it has and will take all of us together to accomplish our goal of granting the wishes of all eligible children. From the volunteer who helps bring children’s wishes into focus to the donor who invests generously, reaching every eligible child will only transpire through the power of us all coming together.

We are deeply grateful for what each and every one of you contributes to this mission—and we hope the stories in this newsletter move you to consider new ways in which you might help us reach all of the children in our community who need to experience a wish fulfilled.

Thank you very much for your continued support.

With gratitude,

Charlotte A. Beattie
Chief Executive Officer

Jay Mattie
Chair, Board of Directors

I wish to go to Walt Disney World
MariaCamila, 8, neuroblastoma

I wish to go to the San Diego Zoo
Isabelle, 5, hypoplastic left heart syndrome
Liam’s Wish

Do you remember your sixteenth birthday? Maybe there was a “sweet 16” party or a meaningful gift meant to mark the special occasion. For wish recipient Liam, the day brought a huge surprise. It’s a birthday he won’t soon forget.

Liam is a laid back kid who, according to his family, “takes most things in stride.” Through his early teenage years, however, young Liam has been through a lot. In 2017, he was diagnosed with Hodgkin’s Lymphoma. At first, the diagnosis was overwhelming. He and his family were scared but, after learning more about the situation, their focus turned to getting treatment. The goal was to keep life as normal and positive as possible.

When he first learned that he was eligible for a wish, Liam was surprised. He began thinking of places he might go, people he would like to meet, and experiences he would enjoy. But, just one wish seemed right. Liam has always
wanted to have a pet dog – another family member bringing fun and joy to his family’s home.

As Liam’s sixteenth birthday drew near, a Nor’easter was also approaching the area. Schools had already been cancelled for the next day and people were preparing to hunker down. It looked like it might be a quiet night at home for Liam, but his family and Make-A-Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island had other ideas.

Dale Martin, a breeder of the Norwich Terrier breed that Liam had researched, was on her way to Liam’s house all the way from Maryland. With Dale was a 12-week-old Norwich Terrier puppy, ready to meet his new family.

Dale and the puppy arrived just in time to celebrate Liam’s birthday. That night, everyone involved with the wish surrounded Liam and showered him with a positive experience. “That evening became very special for our family because it brought people together for one goal,” said Liam’s father Marty. “That goal was to have a negative experience covered with a positive.”

“His expression when he saw his puppy come into the house was priceless,” shared Marty. Liam is an avid New England Patriots fan and named the puppy Brady. Brady has settled in nicely in his new home thanks to a loving family and a generous donation of goodies, including a puppy bed, toys, and treats, from Petland USA.

“Liam seems happier in general,” said Marty. And according to Liam, his favorite part of this whole experience is waking up every day to see and feel his wish.

When asked what he would say to Make-A-Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island supporters, Liam’s father replied, “Please don’t ever stop. What you do is generous, awesome, and needed.”

"That evening became very special for our family because it brought people together for one goal."
The 2018 Make-A-Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island Gala: 
WHERE WISHES TAKE CENTER COURT

Nearly 500 individuals came together to achieve a true slam dunk at our Gala on April 7, raising close to $1 million to grant the wishes of over 100 children!

Make-A-Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island CEO Charlotte Beattie emphasized the vital role of our community of supporters in moving us closer to our vision of reaching every eligible child, while the evening showcased how wishes put children at “center court” by immersing them in what they love most. We traveled back in time to the Revolutionary War, to the Grand Canyon, to the mountains of Jackson Hole, and to the basketball court as we heard from wish recipients and their families.

We thank each of our gala supporters and sponsors—in particular, our Presenting Sponsor, Steve and Deborah Barnes together with Bain Capital Community Partnership—for making this heartwarming evening possible so that we can lead more children to “center court” through a wish-come-true!

Boston Celtics Receive Wish Hero Award

The Boston Celtics were honored with the 2018 Wish Hero Award for their outstanding support and partnership, highlighted through remarks from 2013 Celtics wish recipient Terry Agnant as well as a tribute video featuring Celtics wishes. “The Boston Celtics granted their first wish with us in 1989...setting in motion what has become a 30-year tradition of absolute seamless teamwork,” said Make-A-Wish board chair Jay Mattie, as he presented the award to team president Rich Gotham. Celtics player Abdel Nader and Bain Capital Managing Director and member of the Boston Celtics ownership group Steve Barnes joined Rich in accepting the award.

We salute the Boston Celtics for their extraordinary generosity in helping children from around the globe to stand tall and keep reaching for the future through memorable wish experiences.

Visit massri.wish.org/gala for more.
Mark Your Calendars

Events to support wishes take place in cities and towns across Massachusetts and Rhode Island, from the Berkshires to Cape Cod to Providence. For a full list of upcoming events in your community, visit massri.wish.org/events.

**WINE AND WISHES**
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2018**
*New Location* City Winery, Boston, MA

Support wish children while enjoying fine wine, whiskey, bourbon, cider, and craft beer tastings at one of Boston’s newest hot spots!

For ticket details and sponsorship opportunities, contact Tamara Portman at tportman@massri.wish.org or 617.367.9474.

**EVENING OF WISHES**
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2018**
Omni Providence Hotel, Providence, RI

An inspiring evening full of mission moments and community spirit.

For ticket details and sponsorship opportunities, contact Sara Masri at smasri@massri.wish.org or 401.781.9474.

**THE 2019 MAKE-A-WISH GALA**
**SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2019**
InterContinental Boston, Boston, MA

Our signature annual event celebrating our mission, our wish children and families, and our supporters.

For more details and sponsorship opportunities, contact Jo-Anne Spillane at jspillane@massri.wish.org or 617.367.9474.

**SAVE THE DATE:**
The 2019 Make-A-Wish Gala
April 6, 2019
The Cost of Hope

Is it possible to put a price on resilience? To assess the cost of hope?

At Make-A-Wish® Massachusetts and Rhode Island, we know the power of a wish can give a child a sense of possibility and immense joy, even in the face of a critical illness. For a wish family, the experience is priceless. But the reality is that it takes financial resources.

Each year, as many as 500 Massachusetts and Rhode Island children are newly eligible for a wish. Thanks to the support and the financial contributions of individuals and corporations throughout our two-state territory, we were able to fulfill 409 wishes last year, bringing one-of-a-kind adventures, family trips, backyard playsets, and more into these children’s lives.

That sort of direct public support is critical to our work. With no government funding, Make-A-Wish must raise every dollar needed to make these wishes possible.

“A gift to Make-A-Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island is one of the most impactful philanthropic investments you can make. Eighty cents of every dollar donated goes directly to supporting wishes, directly towards providing some light in a family’s dark days, directly towards making a difference in the life of a child. The need for contributions is constant—we grant, on average, more than a wish a day—but particularly critical as we head into the summer months, the busiest time for wish granting.

– Chief Development Officer Lynn Page Flaherty

As the need for wishes grows, so, too, does the need for individuals interested in underwriting the entire cost of a wish. Gifts of $10,000 or more can sponsor a child’s wish and make another priceless story, like those featured throughout this newsletter, a reality.

To learn more, visit our website at massri.wish.org or contact Lynn Page Flaherty at 617.367.9474 or lpageflaherty@massri.wish.org.

The Colleen O’Brien Legacy Society

In 1987, eight-year-old Colleen O’Brien wanted to go on a family vacation to York Beach, Maine. With the granting of that very first wish, Make-A-Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island’s wish-granting work began.

Thirty years later, our organization was looking for a way to honor individuals who have taken steps to include Make-A-Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island in their will or estate plans. The Colleen O’Brien Legacy Society was named for our first wish child Colleen who has inspired more than 30 years of life-changing wishes for children facing critical illnesses.

Members of the Colleen O’Brien Legacy Society will help bring our ultimate vision to fruition: providing every medically eligible child with the enduring and transformative power of a wish come true.

You can become a part of the Society with a deferred or “planned” gift, such as a bequest in your will or trust, or a life insurance or retirement fund designation. To learn more about your options, please contact Chief Development Officer Lynn Page Flaherty at 617.367.9474 or lpageflaherty@massri.wish.org.

Colleen O’Brien
Why We Give: Traci and Colin Lake

Longtime Make-A-Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island donors Traci and Colin Lake make a point of sharing their philanthropy with their three children. They encourage discussion about why they give and how their contributions help others. We asked them to share a little with us about what motives them to support our mission.

**HOW DID YOU FIRST GET INVOLVED AS SUPPORTERS OF MAKE-A-WISH MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND?**

“I heard a wish family on the radio as part of a radio-a-thon and shared the story with Colin,” said Traci. “We felt an emotional connection straight away and were immediately drawn to the cause.”

**WHAT HAS COMPELLED YOU TO STAY ON AS LONGTIME SUPPORTERS?**

“I am inspired by the wish children and their families,” reflected Colin. “How many obstacles they have to overcome and the courage they show to persevere.”

“We continue to support the mission because we receive so much in return,” added Traci. “One of the things we talk to our kids about is the true essence of giving and that, when we contribute to organizations like Make-A-Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island, we receive so much more than we give.”

“After many years of working in financial services and launching the mobile app 4URTIME, I understand what it’s like to be stretched thin. In fact, I am now dedicating myself to helping others achieve work-life balance,” said Colin. “Time is hard to come by when you’re raising a family and making a living, but providing financial support is something we can do. We hope to inspire our children and others to do the same!”

**Our Financial Integrity**

According to our most recent audited records, 80 percent of the funds spent by Make-A-Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island go directly to granting children’s wishes!

In addition, our organization is a Four Star Charity, awarded this top rating by Charity Navigator, the nation’s largest independent evaluator of charities.

Visit massri.wish.org to view our audited financial statements.
Hats Off to These Community Fundraisers

Jersey Mike's Subs restaurants in Beverly, Hanover, and Marlborough, Massachusetts donated 100% of sales on their "Day of Giving" in March as part of a month-long campaign that raised nearly $16,000.

Students participating in the Ashland High School Kids for Wish Kids club organized numerous fundraisers, including a color run and their annual "Jump for Joy" bouncy house event, to raise $8,000 this year, bringing their total raised to over $30,000 since 2012.
Creative Ways to Give

Hundreds of people just like you have partnered up with their schools, workplaces, and places of worship to help support the Make-A-Wish mission.

Here are just a few ways you can join them to help grant transformational wishes for children:

**HOST A FUNDRAISING EVENT**
You can throw a party, teach a spin class, or host a bake sale. Our supporters have done some pretty amazing things to raise money for wish children—and they are thinking of new things every day. What’s your idea?

**DONATE A PORTION OF SALES**
Does your business have a product or service for sale? Please consider donating a portion of your sales to Make-A-Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island. For example, Wood Palace Kitchens, a kitchen design company, has donated $2 for every cabinet sold, totaling $64,000 since 2008!

**START A CORPORATE AIRLINE MILEAGE CAMPAIGN**
Did you know that approximately 77% of our children’s wishes involve air travel? Donating airline miles enables us to send more wish children to their dream destinations. Corporate airline mileage campaigns are essential to our fundraising efforts and are a simple, turn-key way to support the Make-A-Wish mission and bring employees together.

Contact Jo-Anne Spillane at jspillane@massri.wish.org or 617.367.9474 to learn more.

Wilson Farm in Lexington, MA raised over $15,000 at their hay maze where visitors make their way through a festive maze built to entertain all ages. This 3rd annual event brings their total raised to over $40,000.

Endicott College students launched a brand new Wishmakers on Campus chapter this school year and raised over $6,000 through various activities, including carnation sales, cook outs, and their “Chuck a Duck” event where students purchase rubber ducks and win prizes for distance thrown during school basketball games.

If you would like to start your own fundraiser to benefit Make-A-Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island, contact Kimmie Kogol at kkogol@massri.wish.org or 617.367.9474.

Wilson Farm in Lexington, MA raised over $15,000 at their hay maze where visitors make their way through a festive maze built to entertain all ages. This 3rd annual event brings their total raised to over $40,000.
Corporate Partner Spotlight

A wish granted helps give children with critical illnesses the strength to keep fighting. These awe-inspiring wishes don’t just happen—it takes support from partners like ALEX AND ANI, Maggiano’s, and Subaru to transform the lives of wish kids and their families.

ALEX AND ANI

ALEX AND ANI: Shopping for Our Cause

Looking for a meaningful gift or a reason to splurge on yourself? You can purchase the ALEX AND ANI True Wish charm bangle and help grant wishes!

This local company will donate 20% of each in-store and online purchase to support wishes nationwide. The ALEX AND ANI CHARITY BY DESIGN program has strengthened nonprofit organizations through innovative partnerships and collaborative experiences, resulting in donations of more than $50 million to nonprofits across the globe. Learn more at alexandani.com.

MAGGIANO’S LITTLE ITALY

Maggiano’s: Eat-A-Dish for Make-A-Wish

Calling all Italian cuisine lovers! Now through August 8th, you can help Make-A-Wish grant more transformational wishes when you dine with the Italian food maestros at Maggiano’s. Help us reach our goal of raising $1 Million for wishes across the country and don’t forget to share your experience on social media with the #eatadish4maw hashtag! Learn more at maggianos.com.

I wish to go to my favorite theme park
Madison, 7, acute lymphoblastic leukemia
Subaru Shares the Love

During the 2017 Share the Love event, Subaru of America, Inc. donated $250 for every new Subaru vehicle sold or leased to the customers’ choice of one of four participating national charities, including Make-A-Wish. Make-A-Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island was thrilled to partner with local dealers Bertera Subaru of West Springfield and Subaru of Wakefield this year. Both dealers chose our organization as their “Hometown Charity of Choice,” which generated over $100,000 for wishes right here in Massachusetts and Rhode Island!

JetBlue: Wishes Take Flight

Through JetBlue’s TrueBlue customer loyalty program, members can donate their points to Make-A-Wish. Since 2012, through customer points donations and the airline’s matching gifts, JetBlue has donated 23 million TrueBlue points to help make travel wishes possible. With more than 77 percent of wishes requiring travel, these points are an essential resource for Make-A-Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

TrueBlue members can log on to the Points Donation platform at JetBlue.com/donate to donate today.
Help Us Find Specialist Volunteers

Over 600 volunteers across Massachusetts and Rhode Island provide nearly 5,000 hours of support each year to help us grant wishes. These generous individuals are critical to our work and help us keep program costs down.

Currently, we are in need of volunteers with specialized skills to help us grant the heartfelt wishes of our children.

Specific volunteer needs:

- Bilingual volunteers speaking a wide variety of languages, especially Spanish, Portuguese, or Arabic
- Skilled tradespeople who can help with the design and construction of unique playhouses and treehouses, spa and pool installation, or landscaping

If you or someone you know can help, please be in touch!

LEARN MORE AND GET STARTED:

massri.wish.org/volunteer
kbishop@massri.wish.org
617.367.9474

Seven-year-old Ciaran enjoys his new treehouse with friends thanks to the generous volunteers and supporters from Turner Construction.

Arpino Construction with their many volunteers, architect Tom Reardon, and John Mulvaney of TLC Painting generously donated their time and resources to make sure nine-year-old Alexa got her dream treehouse complete with a window to look out while she curls up with a book.
Medical Spotlight: Hear from the Medical Professionals

Every wish begins with a referral. For two years, our Medical Advisory Council has helped guide the strategic enhancement of our medical outreach program to generate referrals and expand awareness of Make-A-Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island within the pediatric health care community.

We recently sat down with two council members who play a crucial role in helping us attain our ultimate vision of reaching every eligible child: Amy Kritzer, MD, Attending Physician, Boston Children’s Hospital, and Sara Ford, MD, Pediatric Cardiologist and Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Hasbro Children’s Hospital.

How do you support Make-A-Wish?

Dr. Kritzer: “As a Medical Advisor, I educate my peers and advocate for my patients. ‘Is this child eligible for Make-A-Wish?’ has become a question that’s routine to my clinic visits.”

Dr. Ford: “While my colleagues aren’t reluctant to talk to patients about Make-A-Wish, some don’t really think of it. I advocate amongst my peers to make the Make-A-Wish conversation a priority.”

What role can a wish play in a child’s medical care plan and how do you present Make-A-Wish to patients and families?

Dr. Kritzer: “Even when there are not medical therapies to offer, there is still a lot that we can do as physicians. Make-A-Wish is a big part of this. It is something positive in situations where there sometimes is not good news.”

Dr. Ford: “I was five years into practice before I was connected to Make-A-Wish and I remember thinking, ‘I can’t believe I haven’t been thinking about this since my first day on the job!’ I’m surprised more patients don’t ask about the organization, but I do think there is a misconception that only terminally-ill children are eligible. When I explain that Make-A-Wish grants wishes to children with a variety of progressive and life-threatening illnesses, most families are excited to jump in.”

What does a wish provide for a child?

Dr. Ford: “Without question, the impact is universally and overwhelmingly positive, a truly life-changing experience. I referred a three-year-old with complex heart disease and a genetic disorder which presents additional challenges. She and her mother and sibling went to Disney World. Mom reported back that her daughter became enlivened by the experience and that she saw her daughter experience real joy for the first time. The child became much less withdrawn even when they returned home.”

Dr. Kritzer: “Make-A-Wish is about imagination and fantasy and making the impossible real. It gives children something to dream about. It takes their minds off of the constant medical issues and allows them to just be kids.”

Medical Advisory Council

We thank the following individuals for their support in moving us toward our goal of granting the wish of every eligible child in our community!

Dr. Kathleen Calenda, Warwick, Rhode Island
Dr. Alicia Casey, Boston Children’s Hospital
Dr. Sara Ford, Hasbro Children’s Hospital
Dr. Amy Kritzer, Boston Children’s Hospital
Dr. Mindy Lo, Boston Children’s Hospital
Dr. Bram Raphael, Boston Children’s Hospital
Dr. Matthew Richardson, Baystate Children’s Hospital
Dr. Ann Salerno, UMASS Medical Center
Dr. Elizabeth Thiele, Massachusetts General Hospital
More Ways to Give

Wheels For Wishes
Change a child's life by donating your car, truck, motorcycle, RV, or boat to Wheels For Wishes. Donors can receive a tax deduction and free towing. Visit massri.wheelsforwishes.org or call 877-431-9474.

Donate Airline Miles
Every mile donated helps wish kids and their families travel to dream destinations around the world. Once donated, your miles will never expire. Visit massri.wish.org/miles or call 617-367-9474.

In-Kind Donations
Donations of in-kind goods and services allow a larger percentage of monetary donations to go directly to our children's wishes. Our “wish list” includes wish enhancements, including limousine transportation and restaurant gift certificates, and auction items and raffle prizes, such as hotel stays or tickets to sporting and other events.

I wish to go on a Hawaiian cruise
Ashanti, 15, sickle cell disease