

Susan McConnell,
President and CEO

Governance Board of Directors

- David Yankovitz, Board Chair, Accenture
- Anthony Boor, Brightpoint Inc.
- Robert Daly, Zumbiel Packaging
- Andrew Paine III, KeyBanc Capital Markets
- Thomas Pate, Accenture
- Juan Jose Perez, Perez & Morris LLC
- Michael Raimondo, Abbott Laboratories
- Mark A. Ranalli, MD, Nationwide Children's Hospital
- Phil Renaud II, DHL/Exel Supply Chain
- Steven Schneider, Finish Line
- Sheila Spradlin, Fifth Third Bank
- Sheri Tackett, Delta Energy
- Ronald White, Owens-Illinois Inc.



Best wishes

SPRING 2011 :: VOLUME 3 :: ISSUE 1



A Note from the President & CEO

More than twice a day, every day of the year, your local chapter of the Make-A-Wish Foundation grants the wishes of seriously-ill children. Wish families tell us that a wish granted helps children feel stronger, more energetic, more willing and able to battle their life-threatening medical conditions. For many of them, it marks a turning point in their fight against their illnesses. There are currently 1,054 children across Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana waiting for their heartfelt wish to come true. They are waiting for the best possible medicine - a wish filled with hope, strength and joy. It would be a dream come true to grant five wishes a day - everyday. But we simply can't do that without your donations and volunteer time. We invite you to take a few moments to be inspired by the power of a wish.

Best Wishes,

Susan McConnell

Robby's New Lawn Mower

Twelve-year-old Robby from Earl Park, IN was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in May of 2010. After becoming ill on his birthday, he underwent several tests that determined he has a cancerous bone tumor.

Robby's life-threatening condition required several trips to the hospital for check-ups, treatments and testing. Despite the exhaustion brought on by his medical routine, his inner rural boy always shined through.

"The hospital food smells would make Robby sick," shared Robby's mom, Susan. "He took two small jars with him. One was filled with soy beans and one was filled with dirt. He smelled the jars to get over the hospital smells and to stay close to home."

Robby also loves the smell of fresh cut grass. When visited by his volunteers, Robby shared his heartfelt wish for a riding lawn mower.

When the faculty and students at Robby's junior-senior high school, Benton Central, heard about his wish they sprang into

action. The school raised more than \$6,500 to grant Robby's wish.

This year, Robby's birthday was a joyous occasion. In an assembly at the end of the school day, his Benton Central classmates and teachers surprised him with a John Deere Zero-Turn 54-inch Deck riding lawn mower.

As a special treat, the school choir sang Rascal Flatts' "My Wish" when Robby sat down on his new mower, which he later named "Betsy".

"Thank you so much for the wonderful, perfect day. Thank you for giving Robby something to look forward to and helping him to have a distraction from the evil world of cancer!"

A special thanks to John Deere dealer Castongia's for assisting with Robby's wish.



Basketball Court is a Wish Come True for Teen

Kameron who is battling sickle cell anemia loves playing basketball with his friends and his twin brother, Kaleb. The 13-year-olds were diagnosed with the same life-threatening blood disorder at birth.



Kameron's wish this spring, only months after his twin brother's wish for a room redo was granted. Kameron also has a younger brother.

"Kameron's wish means so much to our family," shared Kameron's mom, Robyn. "The court allows our boys to have a place they want to be and it allows them to spend more time outside with their family and friends. We know this court will be a place where many fun games will be held for family and friends for years to come."

Cincinnati, Ohio-based Baker Concrete provided goods and employees to construct Kameron's new basketball court in his backyard.



Broyhill Furniture Makes Wishes Come True

Children with life-threatening medical conditions spend a lot of time inside, making the comfort of home crucial.



In April 2010, Furniture Brands International became a national sponsor of the Make-A-Wish Foundation® through its division of Broyhill® Furniture. Furniture-related wishes are a popular request among wish kids with approximately 400 room-makeover wishes granted across the country each year. Through their support, Broyhill® will help grant 50 furniture and room-makeover wishes across the country now through June 1, 2011 by providing new Broyhill® Furniture to each of the 50 wishes.

Broyhill Furniture has granted three wishes in our territory to date.

Kaleb, 13

Cincinnati, OH
I wish to have a teen lounge.
Furniture Fair – Northgate, OH



Wyatt, 4

Marshallville, OH
I wish to have a pirate-themed playroom.
Andreas Furniture – Sugar Creek, OH



Danielle and Dagian, 4

Cleveland, OH
We wish to have a butterfly-themed room redo.
Levin Furniture – Mentor, OH



To read more about the 50 wishes and find a Broyhill® dealer near you visit www.broyhillfurniture.com.

Dear Make-A-Wish,

I just wanted to take a moment to write and thank you all for arranging the most perfect week of my family's life. My daughter Maddison was granted her wish to go to Disney World. It was the most amazing trip we could have ever had, or even imagined. Since Maddison is in a wheelchair, and completely non-verbal there are limited things that she can do and sometimes people ignore her or leave her out, but that was not the case on our trip. From the very moment we arrived at the airport (wearing our Make-A-Wish buttons) we were given special treatment. We stayed at Give Kids The World and from the second we pulled up in our wonderful rental van it was evident that they went out of their way to make sure Maddie was included in everything. For once in Maddie's life she was treated like every other child. We played on a playground, and Maddie even got to swing on a swing for the first time in her life. Once we headed out to Disney and Universal the magic just kept coming! We were treated like celebrities, even getting scolded by a Disney cast member for standing in line to see a character. For one solid week we were never told no, never felt like outcasts and never disappointed. The only way I can describe our trip is a fairy tale. We made a million memories and had so much fun as a family. I don't think I can ever truly express how grateful I am to everyone involved in granting my daughters' wish. Thank you just doesn't seem to cut it, but I don't have any other words. Make-A-Wish is such an amazing organization and I hope one day I am able to give back to you all what you have given to my family.



Thanks,
Lydia

We wish to have...

Travel games, coloring books and crayons • Gift cards: iTunes, Wal-Mart, Target, Best Buy, movie tickets • Disney-themed items • Travel size toiletries • Blank postcards from Florida, Hawaii, New York, Chicago • Luggage • Disposable digital cameras • College and professional sports merchandise • iCarly, Hannah Montana, Wizards of Waverly Place items • Legos • Play-Doh • Stuffed animals • Batman, Superman items

Please contact Wish Program Manager Elizabeth Van Huffel at (877) 206-9474 or elizabethv@makeawishohio.org if you would like to donate an item to our wish closet.

Register today! Visit the new www.wishwalkers.org!

Toledo - May 14 - Olander Park
Louisville - June 11 - Papa John's Cardinal Stadium
Cincinnati - June 18 - Sawyer Point
Lexington - June 18 - Keeneland

Indianapolis - July 16 - Fort Harrison State Park
Cleveland - July 23 - Cleveland Metroparks Zoo
Columbus - October 8 - Columbus Zoo and Aquarium

