



Make-A-Wish Foundation of Greater Ohio,
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WALKERS REGISTER FOR 4TH ANNUAL LEXINGTON WALK FOR WISHES®

(LEXINGTON, KY) --- A record number of teams have registered for the 4th Annual Lexington *Walk for Wishes*® benefitting the Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Greater Ohio, Kentucky & Indiana, Kentucky Region. *Walk for Wishes* will be on **Saturday, June 20 at 8:30 a.m. at Keeneland Race Track, Versailles Road.**

“We hope to raise \$78,000 at this year’s *Walk for Wishes*,” remarked Regional Manager Jayna Oakley. Individuals can visit the Web site at www.makeawishky.org to register for the 5k run, 2k walk or Kid’s Fun Runs. Walkers may participate as an individual or pair up with co-workers, friends or family to form a team.

Registration begins at 7:15 a.m. at one of Kentucky’s most picturesque venues, Keeneland Race Course. The 5K run/walk begins at 8:30 a.m. and is a magnificent trek through 147 acres of rolling hills, white barns and a historic grandstand. The 2k walk begins at 9 a.m. with the Kid’s Fun Runs set for 10:30 a.m. The entire route is handicapped accessible. A celebration party following the Kid’s Fun Runs will feature entertainment for all ages.

Honorary Wish Child Emily will also be on hand for the event to share her wish story. Eight-year-old Emily is battling hydrocephalus, also known as water on the brain. A girly-girl who loves the color pink, Emily enjoys watching Dora the Explorer and playing Playhouse Disney on her computer. A vivacious, free-spirited child, Emily loves to go to the beach and jump on her trampoline.

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When Make-A-Wish Foundation volunteers showed up in March in the rain to put Emily's new Cedar Works play set together, she stuck her head out the back door and told them the play set "was just beautiful." Her mom, Kristi, and dad, Brandon, said Emily and sister, Katelyn, have had lots of fun and expect to have even more this summer!

"We were happy when we were asked if Emily could be this year's honorary wish child for the Walk for Wishes here in Lexington," said Kristi. "Our whole experience has been wonderful and we can't wait to be part of the walk in June!"

"*Walk for Wishes* gives Make-A-Wish supporters, volunteers, wish families, and individuals the opportunity to raise funds for courageous kids in our community and to celebrate life," commented Oakley. "I am deeply grateful for the support of our host, Keeneland Race Course, and our major sponsors BB&T, Hot 102, O'Charley's, Panera, PIP Printing, Thorntons, UAW-GM, Wells Fargo and WLEX-TV."

There are currently more than 100 children from Kentucky, just like Emily, waiting for wishes. Financial support generated from the Walk for Wishes will provide the funding needed to make their wishes come true and to ignite the spirit of hope. Participants who raise \$100 or more will receive a *Walk for Wishes* T-shirt. For more information about this event, contact Jayna Oakley at (859) 389-9474 or jaynao@makeawishky.org.

About the Make-A-Wish Foundation®

The Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Greater Ohio, Kentucky & Indiana is ***celebrating 25 years of inspiring lives, one wish at a time.*** Since the first wish was granted in 1984, this chapter has granted more than 7,400 magical wishes. This milestone year, the chapter will work to fulfill the wishes of a record-breaking 800 local children. There are so many ways that you can help create joyful moments for local wish children. Find out how at www.makeawishky.org.
