



Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Greater Ohio,  
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## **WALKERS SOUGHT FOR 17TH ANNUAL MEDICAL MUTUAL OF OHIO® WALK FOR WISHES®**

**(CLEVELAND, OH) ---** The Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Greater Ohio, Kentucky & Indiana, Northeast Ohio Region is seeking individuals to participate in its Annual Medical Mutual of Ohio® *Walk for Wishes*® on **Saturday, June 27 at 8:30 a.m. at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo 3900 Wildlife Way.** This year, the Foundation hopes to exceed \$180,000 in donations at the Walk. Individuals can visit the website at [www.makeawishohio.org](http://www.makeawishohio.org) to register for the a 5K walk through the scenic Cleveland Metroparks Zoo to raise funds for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Greater Ohio, Kentucky & Indiana, Northeast Ohio Region.

Check out the animal exhibits as you enjoy a leisurely stroll with family, friends and co-workers while helping to make wishes come true for deserving children. Each individual will receive a ticket to the zoo and rainforest for the entire day, as well as plenty of refreshments. Walkers may participate as an individual or pair up with co-workers, friends or family to form a team.

Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. at one of Cleveland's most picturesque venues at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. The entire route is handicapped accessible. At the conclusion of the Walk stay for our Wish Reunion Celebration while enjoying a leisurely walk around the Zoo with a free entry pass to the zoo and rainforest. The family-friendly event will feature games, food and entertainment for all ages! You will also have the opportunity to meet current and past wish families. The Wish Reunion is open to all Walk participants, so join us as we come together to *share the power of a wish*®.

Honorary Wish Child, Sarah, will also be on hand for the event to share her wish story. Six year-old Sarah, who is battling AV Canal and other heart defects, loves watching Veggie Tales, reading *Go Dog Go* and eating chocolate chip cookies. Even though she has had two open heart surgeries and three angioplasties, Sarah enjoys going horseback riding and out to eat at Golden Corral.

When Make-A-Wish Foundation volunteers met the spunky and courageous girl, they asked her, "If you could have one wish, what would you wish for?" Sarah told wish volunteers that her heartfelt wish was to meet Mickey Mouse and all of his friends at Walt Disney World. In March 2008, Sarah's wish came true.

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“We were so excited when Sarah was selected as the honorary wish child for the *Walk for Wishes!* We had an amazing time at Disney World and feel so grateful to you for supporting the Make-A-Wish Foundation,” said Wendy, Sarah’s Mom “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 fundraise and unite for a day of celebration.

Participating in the 17th Annual Medical Mutual of Ohio® *Walk for Wishes*® will help grant wishes of special children just like Sarah! With your support, we will grant the wishes of more than 180 children on our waiting list for wishes in Northeast Ohio. 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 Carrie Emch, Development Officer, at (216) 241-3670 or [CarrieE@makeawishohio.org](mailto:CarrieE@makeawishohio.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 7,300 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.makeawishohio.org](http://www.makeawishohio.org).

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