Make-A-Wish Foundation® of New Jersey

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"The mission of the Make-A-Wish Foundation" is to grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy."

June 3, 2010

Greater Trenton Dart League

Dear Greater Trenton Dart League Members:

On behalf of our families and most importantly, the wish children, I would like to thank you for once again organizing the 5th Annual "Darts For Dreams" Charity Dart-a-thon to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation of New Jersey. To date, gifts from your efforts have totalled \$21,057.00 and have adopted the wishes of the following children from Mercer County as part of our Adopt-A-Wish program.

Seven-year-old Hugo seems like your typical kid. He loves to ride his bike, play with his siblings, and watch cartoons. Hugo's favorite food, like any seven-year-old, is chocolate and his favorite television show is "Diego". What separates Hugo from his classmates is that he is battling Leukemia. When Make-A-Wish volunteers visited with Hugo and his family to ask him the magical question "If you had one wish, what would it be?" Hugo wished to have a shopping spree at the Oxford Valley Mall. He chose this wish because he would "like to have lots of things that he sees in the stores." Hugo's wish will allow him to escape his troubles for the day and be treated like a celebrity as he shops his way through the Oxford Valley Mall. We know that Hugo's shopping spree will be a source of joyful memories and we can't wait to hear all about what he treated himself to when he returns.

Jaggar is a sixteen-year-old boy who loves to listen to Lady Gaga and the Black Eyed Peas. He is also a huge New York Yankees fan, loves the movie Role Models, and loves to watch Saturday Night Live. When Make-A-Wish volunteers visited with Jaggar and his family, they asked him that same magical question, where he wished to go on a Mediterranean Cruise with his family. His family and he will be whisked away for a once-in-a-lifetime experience this summer when they are taken to the Cruise Port by limousine. While on the cruise, Jaggar and his family will be visiting a few European countries along the Mediterranean Sea. We hope they have an amazing time and take advantage of all of what the area has to offer!

The simple question, "If you had one wish, what would it be?" has been translated into wishes for over 6,300 children throughout New Jersey in the last 27 years. Last year, we granted 471 unique, special and magical wishes such as the wish of a little boy to visit the extended family he's never met in Poland, or the wish of a teenage girl to go on a shopping spree as she prepared to return to school following a prolonged absence. One young lady wished to meet her favorite singer and her wish came true when he not only sat down to speak with her, but also asked her to join him on stage for an encore. Many more magical wishes to Disney World were also granted and made countless little girls and boys feel like princesses and superheroes-feelings their illnesses have temporarily taken away.

Research has shown us that roughly 800 children are diagnosed with a life-threatening medical condition annually in the state of New Jersey. Each year, we strive to identify an ever-increasing number of these children whose hospital visits, treatments and overall outlook on their illness has the potential to be more positive after that one memorable wish has been granted.

In our 27-year history, no wish-eligible child has ever been turned down because of a lack of funding and that's because we have caring donors like you, and those who supported the 5th Annual "Darts for Dreams" Dart-a-thon, who have helped make these wishes come true. Once again, thank you for helping us restore hope, strength and joy to Hugo's and Jaggar's lives, and the lives of their families, and for sharing the power of a wish<sup>®</sup>!

Sincerely,

Kristina Maglietta

Director of External Events

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