



A Special Wish Foundation Dayton  
Dayton Children's  
1 Children's Plaza – Administration Trailer  
Dayton, OH 45404

937.223.WISH (9474)  
aspecialwishdayton.org

Dayton, Ohio Chapter of A Special  
Wish Foundation, Inc. serving  
Montgomery, Darke, Mercer, Miami,  
Greene and Shelby Counties



Save the Date

for Dayton's Dancing with the Stars!

Valentines  
Dance



Benefiting A Special Wish Foundation

Friday, February 8, 2019

Wright State University Nutter Center

Tickets go on sale December 1st!

SAVE THE DATE!



GLOW FORE WISHES

Friday, August 28, 2019 at 7pm  
Community Golf Club, Kettering

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# THE WISH REPORT

A PUBLICATION OF A SPECIAL WISH FOUNDATION, DAYTON CHAPTER

VOLUME 1 ★ ISSUE 1 ★ SUMMER 2018



## Our Mission

To grant the Special Wish of a young person, birth through age twenty, who has been diagnosed by a physician with a life-threatening disorder.

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David Seyer, Executive Director  
Tyler Gregory, Wish Manager  
Amber Maham, Development and Special Events Manager

wishes granted:

1,702

## We would like to introduce you to Brody!

May 2018 is a month Todd and Shilo Allen will never forget. It was then that they found out their 2 year old son, Brody, was battling a very rare form of brain and spine cancer (Embryonal tumors with multilayered rosettes, or ETMR). Not only did their sweet little boy have a tumor in his brain stem, but he also has two in the lower part of his brain and in his spine. After several rounds of chemotherapy, Brody had another MRI in August, "I'm sorry to say they are not good," stated the family on their group Facebook page regarding Brody's results. "Brody's main tumor has continued to grow as well as the other smaller tumors in his brain. In addition, they have found another tumor in his brain that has formed since his last MRI in May. It has worsened during the toughest chemo treatment available to him. The doctors have exhausted all available means they have to cure his disease" The post continued, "We have been told to expect that Brody has only two months to live."

The Dayton Chapter of A Special Wish Foundation was connected to the Allen family through a social worker at Cincinnati Children's. Brody and his family wished to go to Walt Disney World and in less than two weeks they were headed to Orlando, Florida on their first family vacation!

"Being able to go to Disney World and stay at Give Kids the World Village (GKTW) allowed our family to not only take our very first family vacation but more importantly allowed us to enjoy some quality family time. Taking this trip gave us

Smiles and Mickey Mouse bubbles



the opportunity to focus on having a blast with Brody rather than just his illness for the first time since he was diagnosed in May," recalled Brody's sister, Mackenzie.

The Allen family is staying strong through this hard time stating on Facebook "we are going to try and be as strong as he [Brody] is. Who knows, we might just learn something about life in the process." Mckenzie finished her letter to ASW by saying, "Our entire family would like to thank a Special Wish Foundation from the very bottom of our hearts. We feel so grateful and blessed that we were able to take this trip to Walt Disney World."

Brody's story has made national news over the last several weeks after the family wanted Brody to have one more Christmas. They turned to Facebook asking neighbors for help and the community responded with lights, Santa's and blow up Christmas decorations. There was caroling, piles of Christmas cards and even a Christmas parade in his honor.

Stories like Brody's are all too familiar with families in the Dayton and surrounding regions. ASW was able to grant this Special Wish in a very small timeframe thanks to the generosity of local donors. We hope you will consider making a donation to A Special Wish Foundation – Dayton. When a donation is made, the money stays within the community and ASW is able to take those funds raised and make very special wishes come true to deserving local children battling life-threatening illnesses.



The 'bear' necessities of life

# A letter from David Seyer, Executive Director

Welcome to the new A Special Wish Foundation Dayton quarterly newsletter, *The Wish Report*. After a few years hiatus, we received multiple request to bring the newsletter back. We hope you enjoy the new format as we introduce you to the amazing kids we serve and take you along on their wish adventures.

You will also find in the newsletter, information regarding upcoming events, ways to volunteer and help the organization and opportunities to donate to make local kid's wishes come true. **A Special Wish Foundation Dayton is still the only wish granting organization in the region and has been granting wishes for 35 years and relies solely on funding from the community and special events.**

All of us hope you find the newsletter interesting and worth taking the time to read. You can also keep up-to-date on ASW by joining us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Thank you for your support and I hope you will continue to join ASW and make special wishes come true for local children battling against a life-threatening disorder.

**Together, we can make a local child's wish come true!!!**

*Dave*  
David Seyer, Executive Director

Find A Special Wish Dayton on



## FUN FACTS

**ASW grants an average of 50 wishes a year.**

**An average wish costs \$5,000.**

**ASW has granted over 1,700 wishes.**

**60% of Wish Kids, wish to go to Walt Disney World.**

## A SPECIAL WISH FOUNDATION INC.® TOY DRIVE

ALL GIFTS WILL BE GIVEN TO PAST AND PRESENT SPECIAL WISH KIDS AND THEIR SIBLINGS AT THE SPECIAL WISH HOLIDAY PARTY

**WHAT:**  
Gifts or toys for children battling life-threatening disorders (birth through age 20). Gifts between \$10-\$20.

**If you need ideas, we have put together a Wish List on Amazon:** <http://a.co/3CczZc6>  
*(Please no toy guns, including Nerf guns.)*

**WHEN:**  
All gifts need to be received by Monday, November 26.

**WHERE:**  
Gifts may be dropped off at the Special Wish offices (call Tyler at (937) 641-4265 to arrange).

**WHY:**  
The holidays can be a difficult time for some Special Wish Families. This is a way for the community to support these families. What better way to spread Christmas cheer than by bringing a smile to a child going through the unimaginable.

## Wish Kids Enjoy Time With Their Families

### SCARLETT WISHED TO GO TO WALT DISNEY WORLD



*Eskimo kisses with Mickey*

Scarlett filled her ENTIRE autograph book and still found time to ride rides at Walt Disney World. Her wish was sponsored by the Xavier University Distance for Dreams and the Wayne High School Junior Cabinet.

### JONAH ALSO WISHED TO GO TO WALT DISNEY WORLD

After the trip, Jonah's father stated, "Hope was an unexpected outcome from the Special Wish Trip. Jonah was simply an excited, joyous, contented, and happy young boy. Jonah's emotional and day-to-day burdens from illness were lifted/eased/forgotten."



*Two thumbs way, way up!*

This wish was sponsored by the K.99.1FM Concert for a Cause.

### DAWSYN GOT HER WISH TO GO TO WALT DISNEY WORLD AND SEA WORLD

Although being pampered like a princess at the village was fun, Dawsyn's day at Discovery Cove was her favorite! Dawsyn was very excited to jump in the water with the dolphins, hold on to their fin and get pulled around the pool.



*Paint with all the colors of the wind*

Her Special Wish was sponsored by Kettering Fairmont High School's Spirit Chain.



ASW served beer at Riverscape for three progressive bluegrass concerts, *Pickin' in the Park*, and was able to raise **\$6,343!** Thank you to Five River Metro Parks and Bonbright Distributors.



The 5th annual *Cruise the Gate* had over 100 cars in attendance and raised over **\$4,000**. Funds raised at the show will help to grant Zack's Special Wish of going to the NFL Pro Bowl!

**Old Scratch Pizza raised almost \$2,900 for us with their "Cones for a Cause" program**