

Christmas Caroling for Make-A-Wish®

In December 2005, the Andrisani sisters – Alexa, Olivia & Sophia (then 8, 6 and 3 years old and currently 12th, 9th & 6th grade students at the Academy of Notre Dame de Namur) – decided they wanted to help make other kids' dreams come true by raising money for **Make-A-Wish®**. After watching the movie *Elf*, in which Buddy the Elf says that “the best way to spread Christmas cheer is to sing out loud for all to hear,” they came up with the idea of singing Christmas carols in their community to raise money for **Make-A-Wish®**. They gathered some friends and began going door to door caroling and spreading Christmas cheer to raise money so that sick children could experience the power of a wish. Over the past nine years their team of carolers has grown significantly as has the amount of money raised – they have now raised more than \$150,000 for **Make-A-Wish®**! With your help, they are hoping to raise even more this year.

The Notre Dame Women's Chorale has joined the effort and will be performing with the Malvern Prep Chorus in Philadelphia's LOVE Park from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 20, 2014.

The money raised has been used to grant wishes that have brightened the spirits of, and provided strength and encouragement to some incredibly brave children who are battling serious illnesses here in our community. One wish child – whose wish of going to Hawaii during a break in his chemotherapy treatments was granted with money raised by the carolers – best described the power of a wish in his thank you note.

I am now 18 years old, three years in remission and embarking on my college career. You have inspired me to help others. I hope someday to be in a position to return the favor to someone else in need. Your kindness, generosity and selflessness will never be forgotten. It gave me hope during the most difficult times of my treatment and battle to overcome cancer and it has inspired me to help others by offering them hope through the power of a wish. Thank you and God bless.

Your generous donation can help inspire hope and make a wish come true for a child battling a serious illness here in our community. We hope that you will be touched by the love and joy of this Christmas season and will be inspired to donate in support of our efforts. We will take your tax-deductible donation and all of the money we raise to the **Make-A-Wish®** office during the week following Christmas (before January 1, 2015). If you or someone else you know would like to contribute more, please send the checks (made payable to **Make-A-Wish®**) to either:

The Andrisani Sisters
c/o Nathan J. Andrisani
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP **OR**
1701 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Make-A-Wish® of Philadelphia,
Northern Delaware & Susquehanna Valley
5 Valley Square, Suite 210
Blue Bell, PA 19422
philasv.wish.org

You Can Make A Difference . . .

On its own, a wish is not a cure, but wishes do have the power to change lives. Wishes settle deep inside the hearts of seriously ill children and become a source of strength they can draw upon to manage or even overcome their medical conditions. Indeed, the results of a national survey confirm the power of a wish.

- 89% of doctors, nurses, social workers and child life specialists reported that they believe that the wish experience can influence wish kids' physical health.
- 83% of adult former wish kids confirmed that the wish experience improved their physical health and strength.
- 97% of adult former wish kids reported that receiving a wish provided them with improved mental and emotional health.
- 79% of adult former wish kids confirmed that the wish experience marked a turning point in their treatment and recovery and 74% of wish parents reported that the wish experience marked a turning point in their own child's response to treatment.
- 76% of adult former wish kids indicated that their wish experience helped them continue to comply with their medical treatment protocols and 81% of wish parents observed that the wish experience improved their child's willingness and ability to continue to comply with their treatment protocols.

NO DONATION IS TOO SMALL TO HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

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Thank you for your support. May God bless you and those you love with peace, love, and happiness this holiday season!

Merry Christmas