

**Make-A-Wish®
Greater Pennsylvania
and West Virginia**

The Gulf Tower
707 Grant Street, 37th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1938
412 471-WISH
412 471-9705 fax
email@pawv.wish.org
greaterpawv.wish.org
June 29, 2016



Ms. Cecilia Lackey
GKG Orthodontics
1000 Brooktree Road, STE 200
Wexford, PA 15090

Dear Cecilia and Associates of GKG:

On behalf of Make-A-Wish Greater Pennsylvania and West Virginia, I want to thank you for your generous donation of \$4,040.00, proceeds from your ongoing office collections, which we received on December 15, 2015. Your prior donation on June 12, 2015 of \$3,900.00 brings your 2015 total raised to \$7,940! We are honored to recognize you as a *Wishmaker®* in our newsletter, annual report, and website donor list. We are very grateful for this gift as we continue our work of granting magical wishes to some pretty amazing wish kids.

We are proud GKG will be funding the wish granting expenses of special wish boy, Jonah. This is his story.

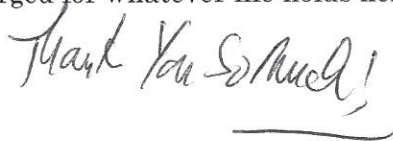
Jonah is an energetic and bubbly six-year-old from Allegheny County. Even though he was diagnosed with Neurofibromatosis, his laughter and love for adventure are always strong and ongoing. He loves to laugh out loud at the movie *Parental Guidance*. Jonah's favorite colors are red, orange, and pink and he enjoys bagels at all times of the day. He also is a super big fan of the main cheese himself, Mickey Mouse. Jonah knew his wish would be to meet him but in a whole different way. That is why his wish was to go on a Disney Cruise.

Jonah and his family set sail in April. He was filled with excitement because this cruise, in his words, was just for kids. Jonah could not wait to ride the AquaDuck, which is the 765 feet slide on the boat. He saw commercials for it and knew it would be an absolute blast. He was right and rode it almost every day of his trip. Jonah loved meeting the characters on the boat too including Mickey and Minnie, Goofy, and the rest of the gang in the grand lobby of the ship. However, on the last day, pirates took over. Lucky for Jonah it was Captain Jack Sparrow's crew that had come to party. They had a pirate themed dinner complete with a treasure map menu, swashbuckling food, and show before heading up on deck. There Jonah found a full blown pirate party, where he got his very own pirate bandana. He enjoyed songs, games, and even fireworks! It was a fantastic way to end his trip.

Jonah had an amazing time when his wish came true. He made memories that he will never forget. His wish helped him just be a kid and not focus on the hassle of doctor's visits. Now he is refreshed and recharged for whatever life holds next.

Best wishes,

Stephanie Pugliese
Director of Development





The Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Greater Pennsylvania and West Virginia advises you that a copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. West Virginia residents may obtain a summary of the registration and financial documents from the Secretary of State, State Capitol, West Virginia 25305.

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January 4, 2017

Dr. John Marshall Grady, DMD
GKG Orthodontics
1000 Brooktree Road, Suite 200
Wexford, PA 15090

Dear Dr. Grady and GKG staff:

You always manage to brighten our spirits during the holiday season. On behalf of Make-A-Wish Greater Pennsylvania and West Virginia, we want to thank you for holding ongoing collections throughout the year, raising in total an incredible \$8,800.00, received on December 21, 2016, during our holiday campaign. We are honored to recognize GKG Orthodontics as a Wishmaker on our website donor list, newsletter and annual report. Your 2016 Wishmaker plaque is enclosed. We are excited that GKG Orthodontics will be funding the wishes of two children like the following from Allegheny County:

Non-publicity child, 7. This seven-year-old from Pittsburgh, PA, is a kind young boy who lives with spinal muscular atrophy with respiratory distress. Also known as SMARD, this is a rare genetic disease affects the part of this wish child's nervous system that controls voluntary muscle movement, especially the muscles used for breathing. As one can imagine, being so medically involved means this child doesn't get to have the same experiences as peers his age. One adventure of particular interest to him is being able to see the beach. He wants to relax in the cool ocean breeze, take in the sounds of waves crashing against the wet shoreline and feel the sand squish between his toes. When Make-A-Wish informed this sweet boy that he was eligible for a wish, it was no surprise that he chose a trip to visit Bethany Beach.

This past fall, he and his family made the long journey to Delaware. Thanks to their rented RV, they made the most of their extended drive, taking breaks every few hours to explore or simply enjoy each other's company. As the boy felt the van slow down and pull into their beach house, he knew the real excitement was just beginning. His priceless smile didn't leave his face from the time he rolled out of the car and onto the sand-dusted driveway. That week, this wish kid had the option to laze the day away under a shady umbrella or explore the nearby boardwalk to enjoy some local entertainment. He had the time of his life simply by being free to make his own choices about how he wanted to have fun. Though his vacation only lasted a few days, the experience he gained will last much longer. His wish enabled him to forget about his illness and focus on the joy of just being a kid.



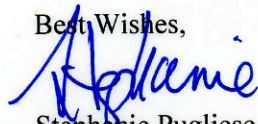
Scott, 18. While most people would be content to sit by the fireplace with a cup of hot chocolate in hand, Wexford, PA, wish kid Scott is more likely to be found racing down the freshly powdered hills of a mountain. At just 18-years-old, Scotty (as he is known to family and friends) is already an accomplished skier who loves finding new slopes to challenge himself. Even having a heart transplant hasn't been enough to keep him from his favorite activity. That is why, this winter, Scotty will be traveling to Jackson Hole, Wyoming, for a skiing adventure like no other.

Once he arrives in Wyoming, Scotty will stay at the Snake River Lodge, one of the nicest lodges in the Teton Village ski area that features indoor and outdoor heated spas plus a full-service ski valet. The area around his hotel also features activities like snow tubing, sleigh rides and a museum of wildlife art. Scotty, of course, is most looking forward to the time he will be spending on the Teton mountain range. Luckily for him, lifts and gondolas or just a short walk away.

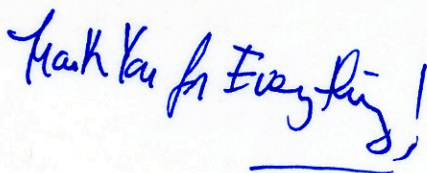
To make his experience even better, Make-A-Wish has scheduled a private ski lesson with the head instructor of the advanced "Steep and Deep" ski camp, Dave Ellerstein. Students in the camp have the opportunity to learn how to safely and confidently explore the extreme terrain and snow conditions that make Jackson Hole famous. With an expert coach as his guide, Scotty will ski difficult black diamond and double black diamond terrain, including Corbet's Couloir, which features a nearly vertical drop-in at the top of the trail. If conditions are good enough, they may even be able to go out-of-bounds to explore Jackson's legendary backcountry. Scotty said he wanted a challenge and soon he will be taking on one of the world's most difficult in Jackson Hole.

Thank you for your support of the Make-A-Wish mission and for helping two deserving children on their lives' journeys.

Best Wishes,



Stephanie Pugliese
Director of Development





January 9, 2018

Ms. Melissa Herbinko
GKG Orthodontics
1000 Brooktree Road, Suite 20D
Wexford, PA 15090

Dear Melissa and Associates and Patients of GKG Orthodontics:

Your continued dedication to our wish kids during this holiday season is so appreciated. On behalf of Make-A-Wish Greater Pennsylvania and West Virginia, we want to thank you for your generous donation of \$6,857.00, collected from ongoing fundraisers throughout the year, which we received on December 18, 2017. We are honored to recognize GKG Orthodontics as a *Wishmaker* on our website donor list, newsletter and annual report. Your 2017 *Wishmaker* date plate is attached. We are thrilled that you will be helping to grant the wishes of Zachary and Rozalynn. Please meet them below.

Zachary, 16. Zachary is a spirited 16-year-old from Wexford, PA. Though he has been diagnosed with cancer, he is determined to make the most of every day. He geeks out for *The Flash* television show and loves learning about science in school. His love of science has also sparked an interest in ocean life and Zachary one day hopes to become a marine biologist. When volunteers told Zachary he could wish for anything in the world, he was simply in awe. After thinking long and hard, he knew the tropical resort of Atlantis, located in the Bahamas, would be the perfect place to relax and explore the tropical marine life.

This past summer, Zachary embraced the warm sun of Atlantis. He could not wait to dive in, literally. In addition to checking out the many pools, marine exhibits and snorkeling sites at the Atlantis resort, Zachary took part in a dolphin encounter at Dolphin Cay, one of the world's largest marine habitats. With the guidance of a professional trainer, Zachary waded into waist-high water to meet a playful bottlenose dolphin. Once in the crystal blue water, he shook the dolphin's flippers, rubbed its belly, and even gave it a hug. That day, Zachary's smile never seemed to fade. Weeks after returning, he is still talking about the day he swam with a real-life dolphin. This wish come true is sure to be a vacation Zachary will never forget.

Rozalynn, 8. When this child, an eight-year-old girl diagnosed with a genetic disorder learned that Make-A-Wish® was going to grant one of her most elaborate dreams, her mind began to race with ideas. During her family's meeting with her volunteers, little Rozalynn perked up every time there was a mention of the Walt



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Pittsburgh, PA 15219	TF. 800.676.9474

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Disney World® Resort and the beach. It was then determined that a trip to Florida would be an amazing wish for Rozalynn.

Rozalynn's excitement built as each day passed. Her family was so excited that she would soon be enjoying the sunny skies and warm breezes with magical shows all around her. Once in Florida, Rozalynn and her family stayed at the Give Kids the World Village, a special place for kids like her. Surrounded by a gingerbread restaurant, Ice Cream Palace, and a safari theater – the Village is truly a wonderland.

Strolling through the *Magic Kingdom*® was a joy for Rozalynn, who smiled at each new attraction as she passed. She was in awe of all the grand structures, like Cinderella's Castle and Splash Mountain. Thanks to her Make-A-Wish t-shirt and button, Disney cast members treated Rozalynn like a star, helping her to the front of lines and allowing her to spend extra time with characters like Mickey Mouse.

Rozalynn also had the opportunity to check out Daytona Beach. Riding in a special wheelchair, she felt the refreshing sea breeze while admiring the crashing waves of the ocean and the sights and sounds of the Daytona Boardwalk.

This change of scenery was just what Rozalynn needed on her road to a better life. Since her trip, she has been able to focus on the positive memories of her trip, giving her the strength to tackle any new obstacles that may arise on her wish journey. This change of thought is something many wish kids experience. According to a recent study published in *Quality of Life Research*, "From a motivational point of view, wish fulfillment can be seen as a motivator for coping and hope for the future," (Shoshani 2015).

We join these children and their families as we thank you again for believing in the power of a wish.

Best wishes


Stephanie Pugliese
Director of Development

Thank You So Much!
The Best!