

Make-A-Wish Suffolk County, NY
1 Comac Loop, Suite 1A1
Ronkonkoma, NY 11779
(631) 585-WISH
Fax: (631) 585-0762



FACT SHEET

- Mission:** Make-A-Wish grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy.
- Beginnings:** Make-A-Wish was inspired in 1980 in Phoenix, Arizona, by a 7-year-old boy named Chris who had leukemia. Chris dreamed of becoming a police officer for a day and, thanks to his family and friends in the state highway patrol, his wish came true. Make-A-Wish was created in his memory, enabling his legacy to live on in the more than 310,000 wishes that have been granted since.
- Local Chapter:** Since its inception in 1983, the Suffolk Chapter has granted over 2,400 wishes to local children. In the past year alone, we granted 131 wishes such as: Taylor, age 8, who wished to go to The Rocking Horse Ranch with her family; Ryan, age 12, who wished to fly in a World War II plane; Paula, age 9, who wished to have a princess room makeover; Zachary, age 18, who wished to go to Australia.
- National Affiliation:** Make-A-Wish is the largest wish-granting charity in the world with 61 chapters in the United States and 37 international affiliates on five continents.
- Wish Referrals:** Eligible children can be referred for a wish by the child, a child's parent, legal guardian, friend of the family (with permission), medical professional, or social worker.
- Volunteers:** The Suffolk chapter has over 150 active volunteers. Nationwide, more than 25,000 volunteers donate their time and effort to make the wishes of children come true.
- Funding:** The Suffolk Chapter is 100% privately funded. Donations from individuals, foundations and corporations, as well as schools, religious, civic and community organizations provide the funding and in-kind resources necessary to create an amazing wish experience for each and every wish child. Other sources include internal and external fundraising activities. Last year, nearly 84% of the funds spent went directly toward wish granting, in Suffolk county. The average cost of a wish is \$7,200.

**For more information, visit our Global Home Page at www.wish.org
or visit our local website at www.suffolk.wish.org**

Follow us on Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/wish Suffolk NY>

*Please note that Make-A-Wish never solicits by phone or door-to-door.
Chain letter requests of any kind are not valid.*