

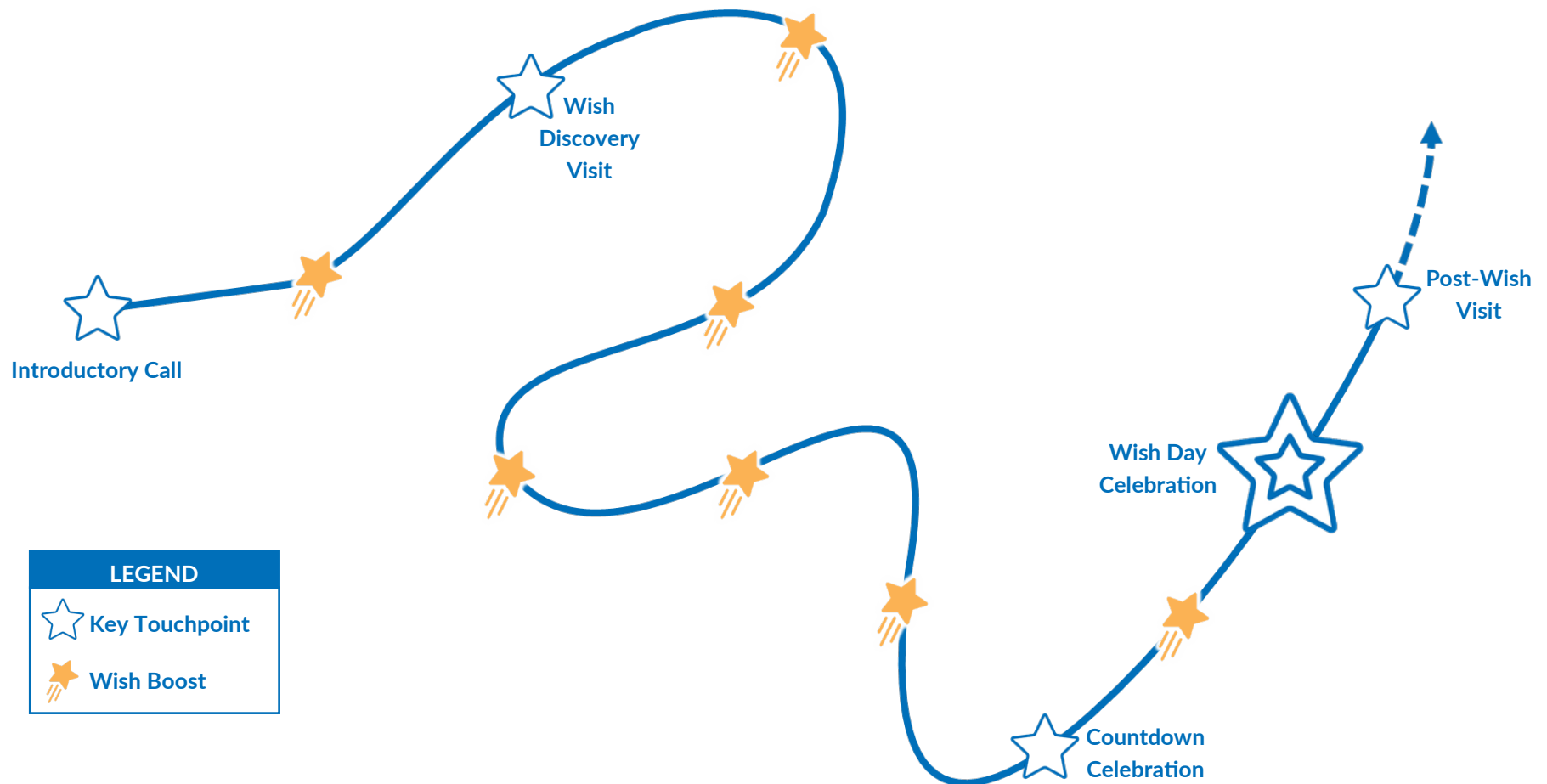
WISH BOOST STARTER KIT



Wish boosts are thoughtful actions or goodies that deepen your relationship with your wish child and fill their Wish Journey with hope and anticipation. As a Wish Granter, you are responsible for planning monthly wish boosts as well as a countdown celebration, wish day celebration, and various in-person or virtual visits. This starter kit includes materials and ideas to help you plan wish boosts!

First, where do boosts fit into the Wish Journey? Check out the map below to see how wish boosts keep a child engaged between key touchpoints.

WISH GRANTER TOUCHPOINTS ALONG THE WISH JOURNEY



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Postcards

Mail at various times throughout the Wish Journey, letting your wish child know you're thinking of them.



Balloons

Use for the Countdown or Wish Day Celebration. They can be filled with helium at your local dollar store or paired with additional balloons to make a larger bouquet.



Monthly Planning Tool

With your wish partner, develop a plan to engage and support your wish child throughout their Wish Journey.

POPULAR WISH BOOST IDEAS

- **Make-A-Wish Word Search:** www.wishnet-mawfi.org/files/file/WordSearch.pdf
- **Songs of Love:** Visit www.songsoflove.org/nominate and submit a request for a free, personalized, original song created to uplift your wish child.
- **Virtual Game Night:** Play charades using these instructions and prompts: www.wishnet-mawfi.org/files/file/Charades.pdf Get creative and add your own wish-related prompts!
- **Fun Outing:** Adventure with your wish child to a park, zoo, or other outdoor location.
- **Meal Delivery:** Treat your wish child and family to a meal from their favorite restaurant or deliver a DIY dessert kit (e.g., cupcake decorating or build-your-own sundae supplies)!
- **Care Package:** Curate a package of seasonal, wish-themed, or personalized items for your wish child. Etsy is full of individual artists and vendors who are often happy to donate to Make-A-Wish.

GOOD TO KNOW!

- WishNet (www.wishnet-mawfi.org) contains additional resources for wish planning, including a Wish Boost Guide, in-kind donation form, and reimbursement form.
- The Facebook group for Make-A-Wish Illinois volunteers is another great place to find ideas or ask for suggestions.
- You have a budget for wish boosts! It includes \$20 per child under 18 living in the home, and it renews every six months.
- In order to be reimbursed for wish boost expenses, you must submit receipts along with a completed reimbursement form. We don't reimburse tax, so use our tax exempt certificate.
- Did a generous vendor provide a donation or discount? Please let us know by submitting an in-kind donation form!
- Plan around any allergies wish family members may have. Common allergies include latex, tree nuts, and shellfish. Note: the enclosed Make-A-Wish balloons are made of latex.

Note: If you are unsure of your wish child's mailing address, please contact their parent/guardian to confirm.

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YOUR MONTHLY PLANNING TOOL

MONTH	BOOST OR KEY TOUCHPOINT	MONTH	BOOST OR KEY TOUCHPOINT
1: _____	<i>Idea: Discovery visit! Bring an icebreaker game and small gift</i>	7: _____	<i>Idea: Deliver a baking activity & supplies or wish-related craft</i>
2: _____	<i>Idea: Send "It was so nice to meet you!" postcard</i>	8: _____	<i>Idea: Countdown celebration! Bring a wish-related treat, Make-A-Wish goody bag, and a countdown calendar</i>
3: _____	<i>Idea: Drop off a holiday-related goody (e.g., Valentine & candy)</i>	9: _____	<i>Idea: Meet your family for ice cream or a trip to the park</i>
4: _____	<i>Idea: Host a virtual game night over Zoom</i>	10: _____	<i>Idea: Send "Get excited!" postcard</i>
5: _____	<i>Idea: Send "Thinking of you" postcard</i>	11: _____	<i>Idea: Wish day celebration! Arrange a car parade to celebrate</i>
6: _____	<i>Idea: Deliver a card and balloons for your wish child's birthday</i>	12: _____	<i>Idea: Post-wish visit! Meet in-person or virtually with your child and family to hear all about the child's experience</i>