

GIVE YOUR VOICE A PURPOSE AND **VOLUNTEER.**



Become a leadership volunteer by joining a Regional or Neighborhood Council and create life-changing wish experiences for children with critical illnesses. You can give your community a voice and your voice a purpose by bringing some joy to them. Join today!

Regional and Neighborhood Council Members

Each council consists of a group of eager men and women who are charged with promoting Make-A-Wish Illinois in their community through event-based fundraising and volunteerism. The focus of each council is to build awareness for the Make-A-Wish as a local charity, They accomplish their work by making connections in the community with schools, community organizations, health and medical services and businesses to provide support to wish granting and medical outreach activities and to help recruit wish granting volunteers needed in their areas. Most councils also help support local fundraising events to reach targeted revenue goals. These councils organize their own events or help to secure sponsorships and participation in statewide fundraising initiatives.

Why A Wish?

For a child fighting a critical illness, every day of waiting for a wish is one too many. A wish helps kids look past their limitations, helps families overcome anxiety and helps entire communities experience joy. Most importantly, wishes can improve a child's quality of life. Research shows a wish gives kids strength and led to increased physical and emotional health.¹

Make-A-Wish Illinois has granted more than 16,000 wishes to children across Illinois. Life-changing wish journeys are made possible by dedicated staff and more than 1,000 caring volunteers who help each child discover, create, fulfill, and experience the lasting impact of their most heartfelt wish. Make-A-Wish brings resilience and healing to children when they need it most. There are NO financial obligations for the family. The Make-A-Wish mission is to provide every child with an eligible condition the opportunity to have a wish experience.

¹Shoshani, A. Mifano, K. Czamanski-Cohen, J. (2015). The effects of the Make a Wish intervention on psychiatric symptoms and health-related quality of life of children with cancer: a randomized controlled trial. *Quality of Life Research*, 25(5), 1209-1218. doi 10.1007/s11136-015-1148-7

There's something powerful about a wish. It can transform the life of a child who makes it, and the lives of all those who work to make it come true. Helping a child realize a long-held dream is a remarkable, indescribable experience... and it can be yours as you help raise funds through event-based fundraising, volunteering and outreach when you serve as a leadership volunteer.



Why join a council?

- Enhance your resume by participating in a high-level role with an organization ranked among the top of Morning Consult's 2020 "Most Loved Nonprofits" survey.
- Develop your leadership skills and share in best practices of strategy, vision setting and fundraising in a highly successful non-for-profit organization.
- Make a difference in the lives of Illinois children facing critical illnesses by volunteering and fundraising to ensure all eligible children are granted a wish!
- Network with Illinois' finest professionals and volunteers.

Commitments for Council Members

- Attend and actively participate in scheduled meetings
- Support community events in the region/neighborhood through securing sponsorship, volunteer support or helping raise attendance.
- Make a personal gift that is meaningful.
- Represent Make-A-Wish to individuals, the public, or other organizations to enhance community visibility.
- Connect Make-A-Wish Illinois with contacts who have potential for financial contribution, wish referrals, wish-granting support or strategic contact.



CONTACT:

To apply, contact the Community Engagement Manager in your area.

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OUR MISSION

Together, we create life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses.