



An Update from Make-A-Wish Michigan

Dear WAM riders,

This is an unprecedented time in our history as we all find and navigate a new normal in the midst of COVID-19. I'm reaching out to our WAM community to share my heartfelt wishes for you and your families to have good health and safety during this challenging time.

The entire team at Make-A-Wish Michigan realizes that this pandemic is impacting our WAM family in a variety of ways. Some of you are mail carriers, truck drivers, medical care team members, and retail employees who are on the front lines of this crisis along with so many more—thank you for all you are doing for us! Others may be working from home and forging ahead in uncharted waters as your children adjust to online learning. And some may be unsure of your employment status as the Stay Home Stay Safe order continues throughout the state. Whatever your personal circumstance is, know that we are thinking of you and appreciate your role in helping keep our community safe.

For more than three decades, WAM has played a vital role in our ability to fulfill our mission. Whether you have joined us for many years or are a rookie rider, we're so grateful for your passion and commitment to making wishes come true for Michigan children. As I've been reflecting on the current situation, I've been thinking a lot about our wish kids and their families—they are all-too-familiar with being in crisis and spending countless hours in isolation due to their treatments. The emotional support and encouragement you give to them throughout the year make a tremendous difference, and I'm grateful to have you as part of our Make-A-Wish family.

The health and safety of our wish kids and families are top priority so we have made the difficult decision to postpone domestic and international travel at this time. This means that more than 150 children's wishes have currently been delayed. We continue to grant non-travel wishes for our incredible kids, yet the COVID-19 situation has had a major impact on our wish granting as well as our fundraising. Once travel is safe again, there will be more Michigan kids waiting and in need of a wish than ever before. And as we move through these days, we are committed to remaining strong and doing all we can to ensure the resources are in place to make their dreams come true. As one wish mom recently told us, Make-A-Wish represents hope to all of us, and hope is needed now more than ever. We couldn't agree more, and this much-needed hope is exactly what our WAM community—you!—provides to our families.

We're working hard on our WAM 2020 plans (July 23–26) and will continue to monitor and make decisions in the best interests of everyone's health and safety. [Click here](#) for more details about the impact of COVID-19 on our mission and check the WAM website for periodic updates.

We wish you and your family the very best and please know that we will continue to keep you in our thoughts as we get through this challenging time together. Thank you for all you do to grant transformational wishes to children in our community.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Karen'.

Karen Davis
President & CEO
Make-A-Wish Michigan