

*Wishes & More*<sup>®</sup>



**2012 Annual Report**

## Organizational Mission & Purpose Statement:

Mission Statement: **Wishes & More**® enhances the life of a child fighting a terminal or life-threatening condition by providing extraordinary experiences... and more.

Purpose Statement: The purpose of **Wishes & More** is to grant the wish of a child between birth and nineteen who has a terminal or life-threatening condition which will require ongoing treatment and to provide a **Scholarship of Hope**® to be used for higher education: or to give a memorial to the family in the event the child does not survive to have his/her wish fulfilled.

## Description of Program Activities:

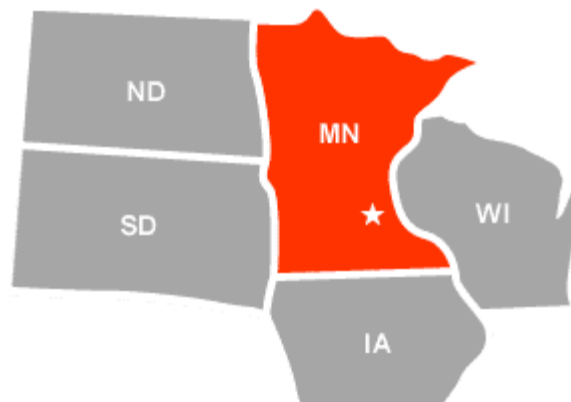
Besides granting wishes to these special children who are fighting terminal or life-threatening conditions, **Wishes & More** goes beyond the wish. **More is...**

- **Wishes**, including popular Midwest wish requests such as hunting, fishing, snowmobiles, water craft and sport equipment.
- **Scholarship of Hope**® Upon being granted their wish, each wish child will be presented with a scholarship certificate that will be redeemable as a \$1,000 financial grant to apply to any higher institution of learning beyond high school.
- **Memorials** Sadly, not all of the eligible children are able to experience a wish. In this unfortunate situation, **Wishes & More** will give a monetary gift to the family to use at their discretion.

## Population Served

The population served by **Wishes & More** is open to all children who have not reached their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday and have a physician's qualifying statement attesting to the child's terminal or life-threatening condition requiring ongoing treatment.

Wishes are granted to children who are living in Minnesota, or who live in the surrounding states; North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, and Wisconsin. **Wishes & More** will also extend services to those who are receiving ongoing treatment in a Minnesota medical facility.



## A Letter from the President

There is no question that the economic conditions have hit charities hard. Sadly, many small, worthwhile non-profits have closed their doors and, consequently, communities have lost these great community assets. Wishes & More suffered as well - we have struggled financially and have had to reach into our reserves to stay afloat. We have always operated very lean and we became even leaner; we stopped our outreach programs in order to make sure that we never had to turn a child or family away. We have carefully examined each expense item and made sure it was necessary and appropriate. Our Board has focused on income and expense like never before and we made it! This year we are once again in the black but we know that our frugal attitudes and careful analysis must continue and we are committed to fulfilling our mission and preserving our reserves as we look to the future.

Every thank you note and every personal story means a great deal to us and are affirmations that we are not a duplicate organization – we stand alone in providing our services to the families with children struggling with terminal and life-threatening conditions. We stand proud knowing that we provide services that would not exist without us. We know that we are simply the conduit of our kind and generous supporters to those who receive our Wishes, our Scholarships and our Memorial grants. We thank each and every one of the donors and volunteers who join us in our special mission.

Hugs and Wishes,

Karla Blomberg  
Proud Volunteer President

“Wishes & More not only grants heart-felt wishes to children with terminal and life-threatening conditions – we also provide them with a \$1,000 Scholarship of Hope®.

In addition, we have a Memorial program that provides a monetary gift to the parents of a child who does not survive to experience a wish.”

## Wishes:



### *Noah's Trip to Camp*

Since birth, Noah has suffered from development delays and a disorder causing chronic seizures requiring brain surgery and a cocktail of medications. Debilitating side effects have included chronic pneumonia, which sometimes necessitates a ventilator and feeding tube. Despite this, Noah is a “sweet, funny guy” who enjoys reading and going to school.

His favorite pastime, however, is visiting The Confidence Learning Center, a camp for individuals with developmental delays, but as his health declined, returning to camp became a financial burden. Wishes & More stepped in, and Noah celebrated his 16<sup>th</sup> birthday at camp where he enjoyed animals, boating and hay rides. “I can’t give enough praise for Wishes & More and all they do,” said his mom.

Noah’s multiple issues are an ongoing battle, but his parents stay positive with the support of family, friends and faith.

### *Megan's Birthday Party*

In early March, Megan, an 18-year-old from a small town in Wisconsin, received the devastating news that her nerve sheath tumor had fully metastasized and that she would most likely not survive until her next birthday at the end of June. We were contacted and Megan told us that her wish was to have “one more birthday” and to be able to celebrate it with friends. She described her favorite cake, colors and theme and let us know how much she loved bright colors, animals and watching “The Cake Boss” on television.



We kicked into high gear and made all of the arrangements and purchases for her to have a pre-19<sup>th</sup> birthday on March 24<sup>th</sup> - the week she was released from Mayo Clinic. All of her favorites were included in the party planning: we had Subway sandwiches, flowers, balloons and party decorations with all of the trimmings. The special birthday party brought Megan’s loving family and friends together to spend time with her; and just 20 days later, Megan died peacefully in her sleep. Wishes & More felt it was a privilege to be able to do something special for this quiet, young lady and to create memories for her family and friends.

### **A Memorial:**

Derrick was a cheerful, athletic teen ready to head to Southwest Minnesota State University in the fall to play baseball when he started feeling tired and weak. In August 2011, Derrick was diagnosed with Leukemia which marked the beginning of his struggle with chemotherapy and numerous hospital visits. Derrick's wish was to receive all of the baseball equipment necessary to get back in the game at college after his treatments. Wishes & More received support from the local community and was excited to present him with all of his equipment when Derrick lost his battle on June 26. In lieu of his wish, Derrick's family received a Memorial grant to help them during this sad time.



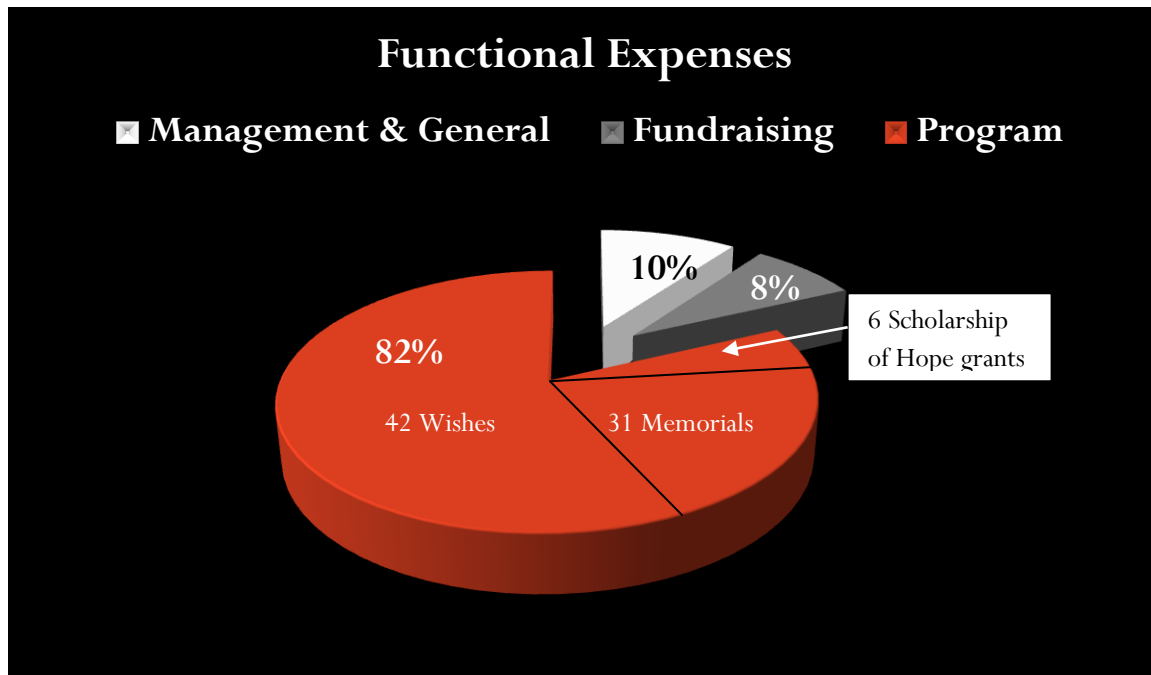
### **A Scholarship:**

Aren is an active 19-year-old from Coon Rapids, MN who loves snowboarding, hunting and riding his motorcycle. After being diagnosed with Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (HCM), Aren contacted Wishes & More® and surprised our volunteer Wish Wizards by stating that his wish was to receive tuition money towards his education at the University of Minnesota. Aren was the first wish child to ever make this request and Wishes & More was excited to be able to grant this noble wish AND provide a Scholarship of Hope® grant to

contribute even further to his education!

We are extremely proud of this young man and wish him the best throughout his college career and beyond! Way to DREAM BIG, Aren!

## 2012 Functional Expenses



See Appendix A – 2012 Audited Financial Statements for more information.

## 2012 Financial Position

CURRENT ASSETS		SUPPORT	303,371
Cash	330,693	REVENUE	272,725
Certificates of Deposit	120,000	TOTAL SUPPORT/REVENUE	<b>576,096</b>
Pledges and Prepaid Expenses	33,272	PROGRAM SERVICES	
Property/Equipment	5,829	Wishes	370,766
TOTAL ASSETS	<b>489,794</b>	Memorials	34,000
CURRENT LIABILITIES	18,308	Scholarship of Hope grants	5,500
NET ASSETS	471,486	SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES	
TOTAL LIABILITIES/ASSETS	<b>489,794</b>	Management	50,016
		Fundraising	41,231
		<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>501,513</b>
		Change in Net Assets	70,632

## Board of Directors

### **Joshua Bird**

Sales Director, GE Energy

### **Karla Blomberg, Board President**

Realtor, Prudential Sundial

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Financial Advisor, Ehleringer Douglas Stolz & Associates

### **Crystal Knotek**

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Customer Service & Airport Operations, Retired

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Manager, Wipfli LLP

### **Mark Robbins, J.D., Ph.D.**

Vice President, Clinic & Regulatory Affairs,  
DiaMedica

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Assistant Vice President, Innovation Strategist,  
Wells Fargo

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Certified Public Accountant, Mueting Raasch &  
Gebhardt, PA

### **Greg Wolf**

Vice President, Wells Fargo Corporate Credit

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### **Steve Garske**

President, Par Aide Products, Inc

### **Sharyl Hansen**

Executive Director, Hansen Family Foundation

### **Chris Harristhal, J.D.**

Larkin Hoffman Daly & Lindgren Ltd.

### **John Hines**

Radio Personality

### **Luis Katz, MD**

International Latin Advisor

### **Carol LeDoux**

Anoka County Commissioner

### **Tony Leung**

United States Magistrate Judge, District of  
Minnesota

### **Clay Matvick**

Broadcaster, ESPN

### **Ann Mueting, Ph.D.**

CEO, Mueting Raasch & Gebhardt

### **Cathy Petros**

Commercial Manager, GE Energy, Retired

### **Tom Reid**

Minnesota Wild Broadcaster  
Tom Reid's Hockey City Pub

### **Robb Stauber**

President, Goalcrease, Inc.

### **Governor Jesse and Terry Ventura**

Former Governor & First Lady  
Actor, Businessman