

Greater Trenton Dart League
c/o Mr. Gary Yourman

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your continued support of Make-A-Wish® New Jersey through Greater Trenton Dart League's 14th Annual *Darts for Dreams* fundraising event. Your 2019 efforts totaled \$71,000.00 and sponsored the wishes of seven Mercer County wish children! Through your generosity, *Darts for Dreams 14* has sponsored **Kiara's** wish to have a shopping spree; **Ameena's, Julianna's, Noyda's,** and **Emma's** wishes to go to the Walt Disney World® Resort; **Tanay's** wish to meet the Philadelphia Eagles; and **Jonathan's** wish to go to Hawaii! It is my pleasure to tell you more about these special wish kids and their wishes:

Kiara is a seventeen-year-old girl from Mercer County who loves going to the mall, watching movies, and listening to music with her friends. In her free time, she loves drawing and expressing herself through her creativity, and is taking a great interest in learning new languages. When she is at home, Kiara looks forward to big family dinners and playing her favorite game since she was younger, Trouble! However, unlike many teenagers her age, Kiara has been diagnosed with cancer. As a result of her diagnosis, Kiara lost the energy and enthusiasm for the things she loved, and with it, her self-confidence. When our wish granting team visited with Kiara and her family, they asked her that magical question, "If you could have one wish, what would it be?" With excitement that she hadn't felt in a long time, Kiara declared her wish to have a shopping spree so she could feel special again!

This summer, Kiara experienced her heartfelt wish come true when she and her family were whisked away to her mall of choice in true VIP fashion in a stretch limousine. Arriving at the mall that she has spent so time at with her friends, Kiara felt her spirits lift and her love for fashion come alive again. What made this trip different is that, this time, everyone was there just for Kiara to welcome her with fanfare and love, and Kiara was there to shop 'til she dropped! With the list of her favorite stores in hand, Kiara was made to feel like a VIP in each store she visited as she received warm welcomes, exclusive shopping experiences, and walked away with all of the clothing, accessories, and shoes she could dream of for her brand new wardrobe!

Ameena is a six-year-old girl from Mercer County who has been diagnosed with a nervous system disorder. Her favorite things bring her joy and are welcomed distractions from the days filled with visits to the doctor and treatments. Though Ameena cannot speak, her parents expressed the things that make her light up with smiles and laughter. Ameena loves bright colors and lights, music, and visually stimulating entertainment – from her favorite Disney movies to games on their iPad! Ameena's favorite part of the day is when she interacts with her friends and goes on long walks outside with her family. Recently, our wish granting team visited Ameena and her family and asked her the one magical question, "If you could have one wish, what would it be?" Ameena's family expressed her wish to go to Disney World, the most magical place on Earth! Her family further explained that Ameena's face lights up every time she sees Mickey, Minnie, and the princesses, and she will love meeting them, walking in the parks, and the sensory stimulation of the lights and sounds!

Julianna is a six-year-old girl from Mercer County who loves to play and use her imagination. She enjoys her Kindergarten class and making friends! When she is with her friends, Julianna loves to play I Spy, make crafts, and watch their favorite Disney movies. Her favorite dish for is mac and cheese and, if she has eaten a good dinner, cupcakes are her favorite dessert! When it's time to settle in for the evening, Julianna loves to read stories with her family, especially her current favorite book, Little Red Riding Hood. Unlike many children her age, Julianna has been diagnosed with cystic fibrosis. When our wish granting team visited with Julianna and her family, they asked her the magical question, "If you could have one wish, what would it be?" With great happiness, Julianna declared her wish to go to Disney World because she wants to meet Mickey and Minnie Mouse and the princesses, see Cinderella's castle, and go on all of the rides with her family!

Noyda is a fifteen-year-old girl from Mercer County. In school, Noyda's favorite subject is math, and after school, Noyda loves to play basketball and see her friends. She loves movies; from her favorite Disney movies, to Titanic or romantic comedies starring Jennifer Lopez, Noyda is a romantic. At home, Noyda is a big helper, and she loves to help her mom cook and take care of the house. When its time for a treat, a slice of cheesecake and a scoop of vanilla ice cream is just what her sweet tooth loves. Unlike many teenage girls her age, Noyda had been diagnosed with cancer. When our wish granting team visited with Noyda and her family, they asked her the magical question, "If you could have one wish, what would it be?" With great enthusiasm, Noyda declared her wish to go to Disney World because she has always dreamed of going to Disney World, and she would love to meet the princesses and take photos in front of Cinderella's castle!

Emma is a four-year-old girl from Mercer County who loves Disney princesses! From Sophia the First, to Mulan, and Minnie Mouse, who is of course Disney Royalty, Emma loves their adventures and kindness. For Emma, her favorite hobby is eating chocolate ice cream, but when its time for her daily snack, she goes for Go-Gurt. Her favorite game is tic-tac-toe, and she loves to practice learning to win! Unlike many kids her age, Emma has been diagnosed with a heart condition. When our wish granting team visited with Emma and her family, they asked her the magical question, "If you could have one wish, what would it be?" With sheer excitement, Emma declared her wish to go to Disney World to meet all of the Disney princesses she looks up to and see Cinderella's castle!

This summer, **Ameena, Julianna, Noyda, Emma** experienced their heart felt wishes come true with their families when they were whisked away to the "most magical place on Earth!" While their, our families stay at Give Kids the World— the storybook inspired village near Disney reserved specifically for our wish children. At the resort, each family stayed in their own private villa and had an all-access pass to the resort's handicap accessible pool, amusement rides, unlimited ice cream at the ice cream parlor, horseback riding, and more! During the day, Ameena, Julianna, Noyda, and Emma visited all of the Disney parks, Universal Studios, and Sea World with their families. A special wish kid VIP park pass granted them access to jump to the front of every line for the rides and enjoy the best seats in the house for Disney shows. Their first stop, of course, was at the Magic Kingdom where Ameen, Julianna, Noyda, and Emma all met their very favorite princesses, Mickey and Minnie Mouse, and saw Cinderella's castle in real life! In the evenings, our wish families returned to the village where fun-filled festivities, events, and surprises awaited just for them each night!

Tanay is a sixteen-year old boy from Mercer County who has been diagnosed with a degenerative neuromuscular disorder. Facing daily challenges due to his condition, Tanay finds comfort and distraction in his favorite things. Football is his favorite sport, and he loves the Philadelphia Eagles! He can't wait to catch the games and cheer on his team during football season, and when he isn't watching a game, you can bet he is with his friends playing as their favorite teams on Madden. At the end of a busy day, Tanay enjoys settling in for his favorite Sci-Fi movies, especially Avengers and the Marvel franchise. Recently, our wish granting team visited with Tanay and his family to ask him the one magical question, "If you could have one wish what would it be?" With great enthusiasm, Tanay declared his wish to meet his favorite team, the Philadelphia Eagles, so he could experience a game in real life and meet his favorite player, Carson Wentz!

This fall, Tanay's one true wish to meet the Philadelphia Eagles will come true when he and his family are escorted in style to Philadelphia in a limo to spend the weekend with the team in true VIP fashion. An exciting itinerary at Lincoln Financial Field will be planned for Tanay's wish experience, beginning with a car service just for Tanay and his family to take them to and from their hotel to the Stadium each day. On the first day, Tanay will get to spend the whole day with the players during their practice! From the thrill of meeting the players one-on-one, to watching their drills and scrimmages, to receiving special autographed "swag," there are surprises planned for Tanay at every turn! On the second day, Tanay will experience an Eagles game like no other when he and his family are escorted to their VIP suite and their every need accommodated. From here, Tanay will experience the unparalleled excitement of an Eagles game in person, instead of from his television screen, and cheer them on with his family like he has always dreamed!

Jonathan is a seven-year-old boy from Mercer County who loves to be active. He enjoys going to school because he gets to see his friends, and he also has a good teacher this year. After school, Jonathan can't wait to play with his friends and practice their soccer skills. At home, he loves to play Super Mario Brothers video games or watch his favorite movie, Angry Birds II. Unlike many kids his age, Jonathan has been diagnosed with cancer. When our wish granting team visited with Jonathan and this family, they asked him the one magical question, "If you could have one wish, what would it be?" With sheer excitement, Jonathan declared his wish to go to Hawaii because of his Dad's stories, who grew up surfing there, and is looking forward to snorkeling with his family and enjoying the beautiful beaches and spending time together!

This winter, Jonathan will experience his one true wish when he and his family were whisked away to the Hawaiian Island of Oahu. When they arrive, Jonathan and his family will be welcomed with the traditional Hawaiian lei greeting and escorted to their tropical resort in paradise overlooking Waikiki Beach. Over the course of the week, Jonathan and his family will spend quality time together bonding as they splash in the resort's pools and relax on the white sandy beaches. As we speak, special excursions are being planned just for Jonathan to fulfill the heart of his wish, including a VIP snorkeling excursion! Jonathan and his family will find themselves immersed in the crystal-clear waters, surrounded by tropical fish, sea turtles, and bright and beautiful coral reef habitats. The sites and wonders experienced by Jonathan and his family will be cherished memories for years to come.

Once again, thank you for making it possible for **Kiara, Ameena, Julianna, Noyda, Emma, Tanay, and Jonathan** to experience life beyond illness!

Sincerely,



Tess Badenhansen
Manager of External Events