



April 7, 2021

Greater Trenton Dart League
c/o Mr. Gary Yourman
12 Coventry Square
Ewing, NJ 08628

Dear Friends:

On behalf of Make-A-Wish® New Jersey and the wish children we serve, I would like to thank the Greater Trenton Dart League for your commitment to our mission through your continued generosity, especially as we all continue to face the effects of COVID-19. We hope you and your loved ones are healthy and safe. While wishes involving travel and large gatherings remain postponed until it is safe, many wishes can, and are, being granted with the guiding hand of the medical community. I am pleased to share that the funds raised by the 2020 *Darts for Dreams* event, totaling a tremendous **\$73,878.00** will make possible **Hailey, Charlotte, Cameron, Kimora, Russell** and **Chloe's** wishes! It is my pleasure to tell you more about them:

***Hailey** is a seventeen-year-old girl from Mercer County who, like many teens her age, loves hanging out with her friends, going to the movies, and taking day trips to the beach. However, unlike many teens, Hailey has been diagnosed with cancer. Despite the new normal of difficult treatments and hospital stays, Hailey's resilient nature has helped her persevere through her challenges and focus on her future. When our wish granting team visited virtually with Hailey and her family, they asked her the one life-changing question, "If you could have one wish, what would it be?" With the recent news of her acceptance into her first-choice college, Hailey was beaming with pride as she declared her wish to have tuition assistance to Villanova! Not only will this wish be the foundation to set Hailey up for success, but it will help her pursue her dreams!*

***Charlotte** is an imaginative five-year-old girl from Burlington County who loves to play "house" and "kitchen" with her friends. When she is with her family, she enjoys playing Candyland and Uno, but most of all, Charlotte loves being outside. From snowball fights in the winter to swimming and camping in the summer, Charlotte's favorite activities are with her family in the great outdoors. Unlike many kids her age, Charlotte has been diagnosed with cancer and her favorite pastimes are too often replaced with difficult treatments and hospital stays. When our wish granting team visited virtually with Charlotte and her family, they asked her the one magical question, "If you could have one wish, what would it be?" With excitement, Charlotte declared her wish to have a camper because she misses being able to go camping to new places with her family. Charlotte's wish to have a camper will allow her to experience the freedoms of childhood, while providing a safe and comfortable environment to meet her medical needs away from home.*

Special wish enhancements and surprise wish reveals are being planned for **Hailey** and **Charlotte** to make their heartfelt wishes a reality, and we look forward to sharing the exciting details with you.

For **Cameron, Kimora, Russell** and **Chloe**, the promise of a wish gives them something to hope for and dream about as they face the difficulties of their conditions. When our wish granting team first visited with them, they were asked that same life-changing question, "If you could have one wish, what would it be?" For these wish kids, their original wish travel plans were impacted by COVID-19 and the necessary measures to keep them safe. Yet, hope is not canceled; wishes are not canceled, and we remain steadfast in our commitment to grant their heartfelt wishes – whether it is to wait to travel or to declare a new wish when it matters most. Thanks to your commitment to these wish children, no matter what they decide, your support gives us the confidence to say "Your wish *will* be granted!" It is my pleasure to tell you more about these special wish kids below:

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Cameron is a nine-year-old boy from Mercer County who was born with a nervous system disorder. His favorite things bring him joy and are welcomed distractions from his daily treatments, hospital stays, and the limits of his condition. Though Cameron is non-verbal, his parents expressed his love for music, light up toys, and visually stimulating entertainment, especially his favorite movie, *The Secret Life of Pets*. Most of all, Cameron loves to be taken on walks with his family and go to the park to swing and play!

Kimora is a fourteen-year-old girl from Mercer County who loves to go for walks in the park, hang out with her friends, and dance to her favorite music. At home, she enjoys curling up with a good book of far-off places and adventure. You see, unlike many teens her age, Kimora has been diagnosed with a heart condition and imagining herself as the heroine in her favorite stories helps her persevere through her daily challenges, restrictions, and hospital stays.

Russell is a spirited six-year-old boy from Mercer County who loves to run around with his friends, ride his bike, and play Donkey Kong. When he is at home, he enjoys building his LEGO sets and watching movies with his family, especially his current favorite, *The Good Dinosaur*. Unlike many kids his age, Russell has been diagnosed with cancer and his favorite activities bring him comfort and distraction through the difficult treatments and hospital stays.

Chloe is a nine-year-old girl from Mercer County who has been diagnosed with cancer. Despite facing daily challenges as a result of her condition, Chloe's resilient and spirited nature helps her through the days filled with visits to the doctor, treatments, and hospital stays. Like many kids her age, Chloe loves playing with her friends, climbing on the monkey bars, and riding her bicycle. At home, Chloe's imagination comes to life in her blanket fort where magical worlds help her escape from the difficulties of the treatment protocols and time spent in the hospital.

As we stay in close contact with **Cameron, Kimora, Russell** and **Chloe**, we look forward to sharing with you the updates of their wishes.

Most importantly, we look forward to sharing with you the life-changing experiences **Hailey, Charlotte, Cameron, Kimora, Russell** and **Chloe** will each have through their heartfelt wishes come true. The impact of a wish extends far beyond the wish itself. The anticipation of the wish allows the family to focus on the promise of the future as they face the unknown. The wish coming true is more than a trip or an item, it is an experience that is filled with laughter and joy that eclipses the illness. The lasting effect of a wish impacts everyone in the family as parents see their family becoming stronger and closer together and siblings enjoy bonding and experiencing a sense of normalcy and hope. For the wish child, the impact of a wish is transformational. The medical community tells us that the wish experience is often the turning point for the child in their medical journey. Hope, strength, and joy become tangible as they not only lift the child's spirits but influence the child's health, inspiring them to persevere through the challenges of their condition and help them to heal.

COVID-19 has brought more fear and isolation to our already vulnerable wish children who are holding on to the hope of their wish coming true. Your generosity and support, in the midst of uncertainty and hardship, assures wish children that they are not alone and gives them strength to keep fighting. Thank you for making it possible for **Hailey, Charlotte, Cameron, Kimora, Russell** and **Chloe's** wishes to come true and for helping us restore hope, strength, and joy to wish children and their families when it matters most.

Sincerely,

Jessica Daniels
Manager of External Events

