

Planning a
Kids For Wish Kids® Program
to benefit
Make-A-Wish®
Texas Gulf Coast & Louisiana



The Make-A-Wish Foundation® of the Texas Gulf Coast & Louisiana, Inc.

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Thank you for your interest in conducting a Kids For Wish Kids® program to benefit Make-A-Wish® Texas Gulf Coast & Louisiana.

Make-A-Wish Texas Gulf Coast & Louisiana is able to grant the wishes of children with critical illnesses due to the generosity of young people like you. Because the Foundation does not receive state or federal funding, income comes through the generosity of individuals, corporations, foundations, schools and other groups.

Founded in 1980 out of a mother's love to grant her young son his wish to become a police officer, the Make-A-Wish Foundation® is the largest, most recognized, and well respected wish granting organization in the world. Currently there are 62 U.S. chapters and 40 international affiliates spanning five continents. Since 1980, more than 415,000 children across the world have had their wishes fulfilled through the efforts of Make-A-Wish volunteers and donors. Our chapter, founded in 1984, serves 47 counties in the Texas Gulf Coast area and all 64 parishes in Louisiana. We grant an average of 450 wishes per year and have granted over 8,200 wishes since our Chapter's inception.

This booklet is designed to inform you of what is required for the Kids For Wish Kids program. It includes:

- Kids For Wish Kids Program Guidelines
- Foundation name & logo usage
- Reporting planning progress, income and expenses
- Commonly Asked Questions about Fundraising
- Kids For Wish Kids Fundraising Form
- Kids For Wish Kids Program Ideas

The Kids For Wish Kids Fundraising Form should be filled out in its entirety and approved by the Foundation chapter office before proceeding with your program. By filling out and completing the fundraising form, you acknowledge you have read this handbook and agree to follow the Kids For Wish Kids Fundraising rules.

Thank you again for your interest! We look forward to your participation in making wishes come true for some very special children.

Kids For Wish Kids Program Guidelines

Thank you for helping us make wishes come true! In planning and conducting your program, please adhere to the following rules:

- ❖ We do not allow door-to-door or telephone solicitation.
- ❖ Please adhere to the **Make-A-Wish Foundation® Name & Logo Usage Standards**. Any item with the name or logo of the foundation must be approved **prior to** publication or printing by the Development Department in your area. For Texas email development@texgulf.wish.org and for Louisiana email development@louisiana.wish.org.
- ❖ Together, we create life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses. Please do not refer to the children that we serve as "terminally ill" or "dying", as these labels can instill a sense of defeat and can be counterproductive as our wish kids fight to overcome their illnesses. Many of these children are able to beat their illnesses, and we believe in the importance of keeping a positive mindset.
- ❖ Please keep careful track of the money that you raise, and send the money directly to the Make-A-Wish office within one month after the end of your program.
- ❖ If you are going to advertise your program outside of the school community, please coordinate this with the Make-A-Wish office.
- ❖ If you would like any more information about the Make-A-Wish Foundation® or if you would like any collateral materials about the Foundation to distribute at your program, please contact your local state Make-A-Wish office.

Program Ideas

Have a Make-A-Wish Money Week – On Monday, students donate their pennies; on Tuesday, they donate their nickels; on Wednesday, they donate dimes; on Thursday, they donate quarters; and on Friday, they donate one-dollar bills. You may want to locate a bank that is willing to count your change.

Have a Dance Marathon – You will need to reserve your school's gymnasium and ask a local DJ to donate his/her services. Have students obtain pledges from relatives and friends and ask local businesses to make cash donations or donate food or gifts to use as door prizes for dancers. Think of fun activities to keep dancers busy, i.e. the hokey pokey, the limbo, etc. Determine a time frame for the marathon.

Sell cutouts – You can make your own Make-A-Wish cutouts or order them through the Foundation. Cutouts can be sold to students for \$1.00 each. Students then write their names on them, and the cutouts should then be displayed on a wall in your school to show your support of Make-A-Wish. One local school district also gave some cutouts to their local businesses to sell to their customers!

Have a Teacher Dress Down Day – Get permission from your principal and put flyers in the teachers' mailboxes to let them know that a certain day will be an official teacher dress down day. For \$1 or more, teachers can dress down to support Make-A-Wish.

Have a Make-A-Wish Fun Run – Students from all schools in your school district can participate in this event! All joggers and walkers are asked to make a small donation to participate.

Have a Paper Chain Link Contest – Paper links are sold to students for 50 cents, and each grade makes a different color chain. They compete to see who can make the longest paper chain for Make-A-Wish.

Have a Hat Day – Students give \$1.00 donation to wear a hat all day at school.

Have a Teacher Talent Show – One school got many of their teachers to perform in a talent show at their school. They charged \$5.00 admission fee to students that was donated to Make-A-Wish.

Sell Candy-grams – For 50 cents or \$1.00, kids write messages to friends and teachers, which are delivered during the day. Each message has a piece of candy attached. Candy-grams work especially well around holidays.

Have a Pie-in-the-Face Contest – You can sell \$1.00 raffle tickets for a chance to throw a whipped cream pie at the face of your favorite teacher at your next assembly. Be sure to have the teacher wear a large, plastic garbage bag over his/her clothes.

Have a Half-Court Shooting Contest – Sell chances to students and parents during the basketball season to shoot a half-court shot for a big prize such as \$500. Be sure to get the prize donated before you announce what it will be.

Fill the Boot – One local elementary school recently borrowed some firemen's boots from their local fire department and raised money by having each grade fill a boot with change. The winning grade could win a pizza party donated by the PTA.

Have an A-A-thon – Students collect pledges from friends and relatives based on the number of "A" grades they think they'll receive on their next report card. For instance, your mom might pledge \$1 for every "A" you receive on your next report card. If you get four "A's", you collect \$4 for Make-A-Wish!

Host a Kiss A Pig Contest – One local high school asked teachers if they would be willing to Kiss A Pig for Make-A-Wish. The teachers who were willing to participate had a picture taken of them and mounted on a coffee can. For one week, students put their change in the can of the teacher who they wanted to see Kiss the Pig. The school borrowed a baby pig from a local farmer for the assembly which was held in conjunction with a student/teacher volleyball game for Make-A-Wish.

Have a Teacher Baby Picture Contest – Teachers bring one of their baby pictures. Pictures are displayed and students donate for each chance to try to guess Who's Who. The student naming the most teachers wins a prize.

There are many ways to raise money at your school, and you are only limited by your own imagination. These are just a few ideas. We encourage you and your group to come up with your own unique program that will involve as many students as possible at your school. You can also consider more than one program running simultaneously – but you'll have to stay organized.

Good Luck!

~ We appreciate all of your help to make wishes come true!