



DECEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

A NOTE FROM OUR EVENT COORDINATOR, PAULINE

People often say, "time flies," but it is hard for me to believe that my one-year anniversary at *Believe in Miracles* is already here. I first met Paula and Julie in May 2023, shortly after my son, Ethan, was diagnosed with a high-grade glioma and multiple astrocytomas. Ethan's battle with cancer began when he was just five years old. After a fall and a follow-up X-ray, doctors made an incidental discovery of a rare, cancerous tumor. What followed were many years filled with doctor visits, surgeries, and hospital stays. But in the two years leading up to 2023, Ethan was finally doing well, no complications, just enjoying his life.

Then, in February 2023, just two days after his 21st birthday, a scan revealed new tumors. Shortly after, a social worker at Children's Hospital approached Ethan and asked if he'd like to receive a second wish. His face lit up with a big smile as he said, "Yes." I was surprised; I didn't even know that was possible. Ethan chose a trip to Las Vegas. When people asked him why he picked Vegas, he said, "Because I'm lucky." And he was; he won \$400 on his very first bet at the roulette table! Despite his face being swollen from months of steroids, his huge smile broke through as he held the money. That moment is etched in my heart. For a brief time, he wasn't thinking about hospitals, treatments, or what the future held— he was just happy.

We lost Ethan on November 18, 2023. There is not a day that goes by without pain, but through faith and the support of loved ones, we are holding on. In honor of Ethan's birthday, my husband and I created *Spare for Spanky*, an annual fundraising bowling event.

The following summer, I visited Paula to see the new Believe in Miracles office and to ask for advice about our event. During that visit, she planted a seed: maybe I could work there someday. A few months later, I was hired. Now, I feel like I have a new purpose. I find deep joy in helping other families going through unimaginable challenges, just like ours did.

Paula and I often say we imagine Jenna and Ethan, arm in arm, smiling down on us as we work together. This journey has taught me just how important it is for families to make memories — precious, lasting memories.

Thank you for supporting our mission and for helping families like mine create moments they will never forget.

God Bless and Happy New Year,



At our Annual Fundraising Bowling Event, *Spare for Spanky*.

Bowling Fundraiser & Charity Event
Classic Lanes in Rochester Hills
Saturday, 2/7/2026
1-4pm



All proceeds benefit
The Jenna Kast Believe In Miracles Foundation
in memory of Ethan Joiner's
24th birthday



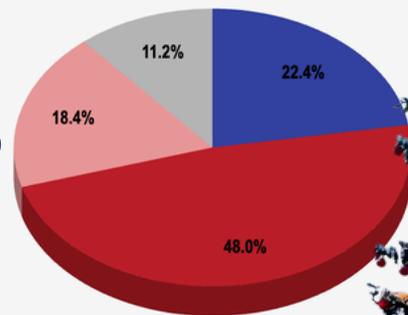
- Join us for some fun while we help raise money for a great cause
- Lane sponsorships available



Go to our Website
to purchase tickets

- Wishes in Progress
- Completed wishes
- Christmas Adopt-a-family
- Gifts of Hope

125 FAMILIES SUPPORTED IN 2025



MEET OUR WISH HEROES



Nolan traveled to New York City



Devon went on a shopping spree



Maite enjoyed a magical trip to Disney



Hayley vacationed in Clearwater, FL



Sabrie went to Magnolia Farms in Waco, TX and met Chip & Joanna Gaines



JJ received a brand new wooden playhouse!



Roza rode in a limo for a shopping and spa day



Ariana went to Shedd Aquarium in Chicago



Ervin is loving his new gaming computer

JOIN OUR WORLD OF DREAMS INITIATIVE

TOGETHER, WE CAN CREATE A WORLD WHERE EVERY CHILD EXPERIENCES THE JOY OF FULFILLING THEIR WISHES!

For just \$12 a month, you can join our World of Dreams! Your monthly support is crucial in granting special wishes for Michigan children facing life-threatening illnesses. With the help of 200 generous donors, contributing only \$12 each month, we can grant 8 additional wishes every year. This collective effort would bring hope, happiness, and lasting memories to families who need it most.

BE A PART OF THIS TRANSFORMATIVE JOURNEY AND HELP US SPREAD JOY AND CREATE UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCES.



Jake got to fly in a Fighter Jet



In Loving Memory



- Caleb Decker - 01/16/2008 - 10/30/2024
- Leah Pomeroy - 12/31/2003 - 12/05/2024
- Tomas Maier - 04/19/2006 - 12/12/2024
- Jayce Lloyd - 01/20/2023 - 01/19/2025
- Korbin Smith - 09/20/2013 - 03/18/2025
- Jonah Roelofs - 02/16/2004 - 03/31/2025
- Olivia Heishardt - 03/07/2023 - 04/05/2025
- Sean Egan - 04/29/2003 - 04/21/2025
- Kenyalie McIntosh - 03/07/2005 - 05/10/2025
- Harper Mathis - 08/28/2009 - 05/12/2025
- Kayden Strong - 02/14/2006 - 05/15/2025

- Chyna Collins - 05/15/2006 - 05/19/2025
- Tyler Johnson - 02/07/2005 - 05/24/2025
- Keyon Wimby - 05/04/2011 - 05/24/2025
- Zelda Mow - 07/07/2020 - 06/30/2025
- Keegan Sergent - 02/04/2025 - 07/02/2025
- Gaby Hale - 12/15/2010 - 06/28/2025
- Amiya Bell 12/27/2017 - 8/27/2025
- Zachary Hodge - 05/03/2016 - 09/15/2025
- Cassie Liebisch - 03/22/2023 - 09/16/2025
- Ari Stephens 10/01/2008 - 10/18/2025
- Ryder Finkel 2/15/2016 - 10/23/2025



OUR ANNUAL EVENTS IN A GLIMPSE



Our annual Jenna's Ice Cream event took place at a new location - Gilly's Ice Cream in Troy. It was wonderful day filled with ice cream, fun raffles, games and good company. Thank you to Gilly's and all who came out to support our wish heroes.



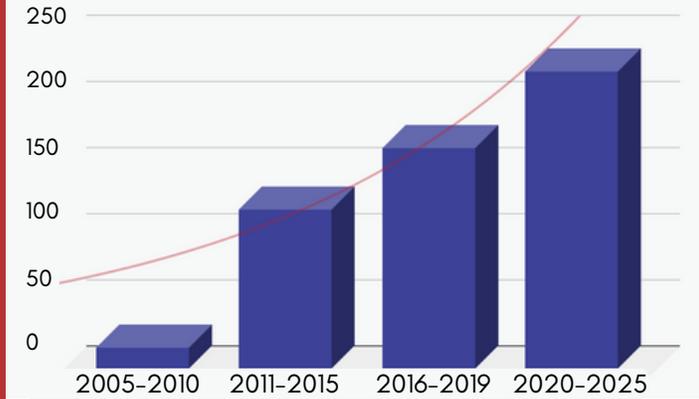
The 10th Annual Jennathon 5k and 1 Mile Walk at Troy High School was a huge success with over 300 participants! It was a very special day including a memorable testimony from our young wish hero, pancake breakfast from the Knights of Columbus along with coffee and lemonade from Biggy Coffee. Thank you all who supported, ran, volunteered and everything in between!



It was a beautiful day for our 12th annual Golf Marathon at Walnut Creek Country Club. Thanks to our amazing golfers who raised over \$40,000 to help grant wishes! We are extremely grateful to Crispelli's Bakery and Pizzeria for providing lunch, making the day even more special. Thank you to every golfer and supporter who contributed to making this event so purposeful and memorable.



GROWTH IN THE NUMBER OF WISHES GRANTED



PLEASE CONSIDER US FOR YOUR END OF THE YEAR DONATIONS

Every donation, no matter the amount, helps us bring joy and hope to wish recipients and their families.

DONATE





Believe In MIRACLES Foundation

Enriching The Lives Of Michigan Children

JK Believe in Miracles Foundation

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www.believeinmiracles.org



LIGHTS, CAMERA, WISHES!

A Hollywood Night for Miracles

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2026

6:00PM - 11:00PM

PENNA'S OF STERLING

38400 VAN DYKE AVE, STERLING HEIGHTS

Scan the QR code to purchase tickets or become a sponsor!



DINNER • DJ • DRINKS
SILENT AUCTION
• RAFFLES •

Help us grant wishes for children in Michigan with life-threatening illnesses!



Believe In MIRACLES Foundation