

## CELEBRATION OF WORLD WISH DAY 29<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2014



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## From The Managing Trustee's Desk



Dear Well-wishers,

Celebrating World Wish Day always brings back memories on why Make-A-Wish started as an organization.

Today this organization has grown across 49 countries across the globe granting almost 25,000 wishes every year. World Wish Day is celebrated on 29th April every year across these 49 countries. It reminds us of the below three operating guidelines:

### **Our Mission**

We grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy.

### **Our Vision**

We are dedicated to making every eligible child's wish come true

### **Our Values**

Integrity Child Focus, Excellence, Community, Inspiration

We thank you for your continued faith in our cause and look forward to your support at all times.

Yours Truly

**Uday Joshi**

Managing Trustee

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## From The CEO's Desk



Dear Readers,

It gives me great pleasure to share with you this update on the activities Make-A-Wish India has done to celebrate World Wish Day across the 11 locations where it has a divisional office.

We sincerely thank our Board of Trustees: Mrs. Sangita Jindal, Mrs. Neerja Birla, Mrs. Ritu Chhabria Mr. Maneck Davar and Mr. Uday Joshi, with whose support two major events got conducted on the eve of World Wish Day this year. The Wish-A-Teddy event in Mumbai and the Mukul Madhav Foundation supported event in Pune, has brought together sponsorships from corporates & individuals, which has provided the required financial base and awareness for Make-A-Wish India to move a step closer to its goal of granting the wish of children who have been diagnosed with a life-threatening medical condition.

On this occasion, we thank our volunteers and staff across India for their dedication to this cause and for working relentlessly to achieve the above mentioned objective. We also thank all our sponsors and well-wishers who have contributed financially and in-kind to help acquire the required resources to grant 3222 wishes in the last financial year.

We invite you to take time from your busy schedule to go thru this update and await your feedback on [ceo@makeawishindia.org](mailto:ceo@makeawishindia.org) with inputs on how you would like to help us grow in to a self-sustainable organization.

With faith and goodwill,

**Deepak S Bhatia**

CEO

## WORLD WISH DAY REPORT 29th April, 2014

World Wish Day is a major event celebrated on 29th April across 49 countries where Make a Wish is present. Make-A-Wish India held week long celebrations across its 11 Divisions to commemorate the first wish granted to a child on 29th April, 1980. A variety of interesting events were conducted by Make A Wish India to highlight the 'Power of Sharing a Wish' as also to bring about awareness regarding the organization and their reach in touching the lives of children battling life threatening ailments.

The Movers and Shakers of Mumbai and Pune converged to The Hotel Marriot on 5th April for a Mukul Madhav Foundation Fundraiser for Make-A-Wish India. This charity dinner event was a prelude to the commemoration of World Wish Day. The charity dinner was flagged off with a soulful dance performance followed by an audio visual on Make A Wish India.

The evening saw an auction as part of the fund raiser which included items like iconic West Indies all rounder cricketer Garry Sober's Jersey and Cricket Skipper, M S Dhoni's Jersey, cricket gloves and bat went under the hammer, Incidentally this was Dhoni's cricket gear for the 2007 ICC World Twenty 20 in South Africa where India emerged as world champions.

Vir Das the stand up comedian took the floor and tickled the funny bone of all over 500 well wishers who came to support Make A Wish India.

The fundraiser was a huge success largely due to the love and time invested by our Trustee Mrs. Ritu Chhabria along with all the members of her family who went all out to ensure that this becomes a memorable evening for our cause.





## WISH-A-TEDDY ON WORLD WISH DAY 2014

Make-A-Wish India conceptualized a fund raising event under the theme “Wish-A-Teddy”. This event was conducted in Mumbai on the eve of World Wish Day. This event included fibre glass teddy bears for which the moulds were created by Arzaan Khambatta and then painted by eminent artists like Anamika Khanna, Jayshri Burman, Valay Shende etc and fashion designers like Abu Jani / Sandeep Khosla, Sabyasachi etc. Jewellers like Nirav Modi, Farah Khan etc created special teddy shaped jewellery products for this event. The fund raiser was an attempt to create a sustainable financial base to make wishes come true for children with life-threatening medical conditions. The teddy bear was chosen as an icon of childhood love, happiness, warmth and security. The fund raiser was made possible with support from Yes Bank, Nirav Modi and ably coordinated by our trustees Mrs Sangita Jindal, Mrs Neerja Birla and Mr Maneck Davar.



Here is also an account of how other division of Make A Wish India celebrated World Wish Day to establish the Power of Sharing A Wish.

### Ahmedabad

The World Wish Day (WWD) celebrations on 29th April, 2014 saw many doctors and donors attend the program. Games were organized for the children and 25 wishes—including those for remote-controlled cars, TV sets and bicycles—were granted on this occasion at the Kidney Civil Hospital, Art Centre and Sola Civil Hospital. This day saw a good turn out of with prominent personalities like Dr Bharat, President, International Lions Club and Trustees of the Polio Foundation Hospital





## Kolkata

On World Wish Day Kolkata Division had a program at Rotary Sadan. The wish of Nirupam was fulfilled as he wanted to meet his idol - Tabla Maestro Bickram Ghosh, Ghosh helped Nirupam understand the basic strokes, bols and techniques of playing the Tabla.

The maestro was truly impressed with Nirupam and went on to make a huge difference to this wish child by giving him his first Tabla; this Tabla was gifted to Bickram by his father when he was a little boy like Nirupam.

## Mumbai

Anuja's wish was fulfilled on 29th April, 2014 to commemorate World Wish Day.. We spent quality time with her at Jaslok Hospital and took her to Basra Studio where the shooting of Taarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah was in progress. Before we met her, she was in pain because of the stitches on her neck. However, the moment the Make A Wish staff entered her ward and announced that we are now going to meet Jethalal and Dayaben (central characters of the show) there was a wide smile on her face and her eyes lit up with joy.



## Bengaluru

Team Hotel Ritz Carlton arranged a wish granting program for the Wish children of Make-A-Wish Foundation on 27th April, 2014 to commemorate World Wish Day. The event was fun-filled; involving music, magic, dance, games, fun and lots of food for the children and their families. Mr Shane Krige, the General Manager of Ritz Carlton, said that such wish granting events allowed them the luxury to sing, dance, laugh and come together as a team and this way to give back to society. Thank you Team Ritz Carlton for making that much of a difference to so many lives!





## Coimbatore

On the eve of World Wish Day On April 28th 2014 at the Kovai Medical Center Hospital (KMCH) in the presence of the Chairman Dr. Nala G.Palanisamy, Vice President Dr.Neelakandan, Deepak S Bhatia, CEO, Make A Wish India and the medical staff of KMCH. The event started on a ceremonial note of "Lighting the Lamp", to bring light in the lives of children battling life threatening ailments. 5 wishes were fulfilled at this function. Dr.Sudhakar welcomed the guests and elucidated on "Share the Power of A Wish" and how a simple wish fulfillment can bring a huge positive turn around in the life of a child. Deepak Bhatia, CEO shared his experience and gave a brief history about the Mission and Vision of Make A Wish India. Further Mr Bhatia, shared a real life experience on how the most cherished wish fulfillment of a child, brought a noticeable difference in a child's health. This change was endorsed by the medical staff and the family. In his vote of thanks Dr. Nala G.Palanisamy thanked Make A Wish for spreading Hope, Strength and Joy



## Delhi

The World wish day was celebrated at the Siri Fort Auditorium. Most of these children were out of their hospitals and homes for the first time and this experience brought a great sense of awe on their faces. Still others were just so happy to be in a cheerful environment that it lent some energy to them, they ran around the auditorium and tried to take in all that they could absorb. The children enjoyed the magic show and cartoon movie. We observed that there was a lot of interaction amongst the volunteers the children and their families. The wishes granted included bicycles, micro wave oven, L.C.D, Cricket bat and ball set.

## UNIQUE WISH STORIES

### Chef in the making

**Place:** Ahmedabad

**As it happened:** Ayushi Vidarhi, 14 from Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh has been undergoing treatment for a life threatening medical condition since she was 4-years-old. Ayushi loves anything and everything connected to cooking and her favorite TV show is MasterChef. Having excitedly mentioned that her dream is to be a chef, Make-A-Wish fulfilled Ayushi's wish by taking her to the Courtyard Restaurant, Marriott, Ahmedabad. Donning the chef's cap and apron, Ayushi assisted the Pastry Chef and learnt to decorate cakes and cupcakes. The Hotel Marriot staff greeted her and addressed her as chef while the Staff and volunteers of Make A Wish cheered her on!



## Visit to Taj Mahal, Agra

**Place:** Chennai

**As it happened:** Ezhiligeethan, 13, from Chennai was raised by a widowed mother and had to discontinue his education due to his ill health. He had always wanted to visit the Taj Mahal in Agra; given the socio economic conditions of his family, this seemed only a distant dream. His travel wish was conveyed to the Make A Wish India. After a detailed planning Wish Child Ezhiligeethan and his family were taken to Agra by volunteers and they also added Fatehpur Sikri to the itinerary. Ezhiligeethan simply could not get over the fact that he and his family actually visited Agra and Fatehpur Sikri!



## Gifting a laptop

**Place:** Coimbatore

**As it happened:** Lakshmi Prabha, 15, who is undergoing treatment for a life threatening ailment at the Kovai Medical Centre and Hospital was referred to our volunteers at the launch program on the eve of World Wish Day. Even though she is a warm and friendly girl, she was extremely shy to speak about her most cherished wish. She did inform us, though, that she aspires to become a doctor and take care of the treatment of little children. She connected her cherished wish to her ambition by informing us that she wished to own a laptop that will support her to reach her dream. She also wanted to travel a lot but said she could not do so as she tires easily and her doctors will not permit a travel wish to be fulfilled. The wish fulfillment made her extremely happy and she could not stop thanking all of us.



## Prabhudeva helps fulfill a Rush Wish

**Place:** Pune

**As it happened:** As soon as we received a call from our Cipla Centre, Pune informing us that 17-year-old Vinayak had just two days to live. Volunteers responded to this call on a war footing to meet this two-day deadline. Despite his speech impediment, Vinayak managed to express his passion for dancing and his dream to be a choreographer like his idol Prabhudeva.

We connected with dancing star Prabhudeva and being the humane soul that he is, Prabhudeva responded immediately and drove down to Pune from Mumbai to surprise Vinayak. He was more than surprised and his expression and body language spoke volumes as he gazed at Prabhudeva. In this state of happiness, Vinayak held on to Prabhudeva in a tight hug. Despite some struggle, Prabhudeva understood what Vinayak wanted and broke into the Chinta Ta Ta Chita Chita dance from his movie, Rowdy Rathore. Nothing could hold back Vinayak from dancing on his bed. Prabhudeva promised the young boy that he would return to teach him some new dance steps. As a token of appreciation, Vinayak had made handmade flowers that he lovingly gifted to his hero. This wish fulfillment ended on a happy note as Vinayak showed great recovery post meeting Prabhudeva. He could breathe normally again and was taken off the respirator.



# A trip to Shimla-Manali

**Place:** Mumbai

**As it happened:** Shizan Izhar Alam Shizan is currently undergoing treatment for a life threatening medical condition at Hinduja Hospital. He loves his sister, his parents and his dream to travel across India. To feed into his travel obsession, he watches a lot of travelogue shows on television. When the volunteers of Make-A-Wish India met him, he said that he would love to visit Shimla and Manali for a holiday with his family. So, Make-A-Wish Foundation of India approached Cox & Kings arranged the entire package of air travel, stay, sightseeing and local transport for Alam and his family. Alam's family returned relaxed as the trip made a huge difference to Alam.



## Divisions and Representatives

We invite you to come forward and share the power of wish. You can reach us at the following locations across India:

### Founders:

Gita & Uday Joshi

### Managing Trustee:

Uday Joshi

### Trustees:

Maneck Davar

Sangita Jindal

Neerja Birla

Ritu Chhabria

### AHMEDABAD DIVISION

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