



The Make-A-Wish Foundation® of the Texas Plains is able to grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions due to the generosity of young people like you. Volunteering for the foundation is fun and very rewarding.

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 65 U.S. chapters and 33 international affiliates. The Make-A-Wish Foundation has granted more than 225,000 wishes to children around the world. The Texas Plains chapter founded in 1984, grants on average 50 wishes per year and has granted more than 1,100 wishes since its inception. The Texas Plains chapter serves 55 counties in the Texas Panhandle and South Plains.

It's amazing to think that something as small as a wish could totally change a child's life. But to a child with a life-threatening medical condition, the wish experience is frequently a source of inspiration that enables them to get through difficult medical treatments and rekindle their hopes and aspirations for the future. The wish can last an hour or a week but the memories of the wish last a lifetime.

We are aware that to obtain your Eagle Scout you must plan, develop and give leadership to a major project. Some ideas of major projects that could benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation include:

- ❖ **Building** an item that could be used for an event or as part of a wish experience, such as a room makeover or backyard pond and bird watching environment. Examples of items include large birdhouses, bird feeders, wishing wells and locked wooden boxes. Any type of woodwork, ironwork or metal sculpting items could be utilized.
- ❖ **Collection** of older children's ice-breaking gifts. We have toy closets full of books and stuffed animals, but rarely things to give an older child between the ages of 14-18. These items are usually around \$10 and can help the Wish Granting team in the interview process. Items could include various store and restaurant gift cards, age appropriate reading material, music or other items you feel a 14-18 year old would value.
- ❖ **Office renovations** for our building. Examples include texturing walls, replacing sheetrock and painting interior and exterior elements.
- ❖ Participation in a **wish project**. For select wishes we need volunteers to help paint rooms, plant trees and/or gardens.

If you would like to learn more about the program and help us grant wishes, please contact Megan Szydloski at (806) 358-9943 or email megan@texasplains.wish.org.

We can't wait to work with you in achieving this high honor! Together we can make wishes come true and *share the power of a wish*® for years to come.

Best Wishes,
Megan Szydloski
Community Relations Specialist

