

CELEBRATING SENIORS AND MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE

Twilight Wish Foundation

Annual Report Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021

Message from the Founder

Dear Friends,

For over 18 years, we have been focused on our mission of granting wishes to low-income seniors, granting 4,066 wishes to date. Now, in our second year of a pandemic, we remain committed to making sure that the simple needs of vulnerable seniors are met.

Seniors have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic. Not only are they more susceptible to COVID, but social distancing is also causing isolation and loneliness to vulnerable elderly throughout the U.S. In response, we have chosen to focus on ways to help seniors isolated at home and in facilities. Wishes that will improve the quality of life for seniors such as a new heater, hearing aids and a back support pillow are among the wishes granted this year.

In addition, we focused more on simple group wishes that had a big impact on many seniors. In December of 2020, our headquarters partnered with local company, Optum, to provide holiday meals for low-income seniors at subsidized housing in lower Bucks County. Their employees donated canned vegetables, cranberry sauce, stuffing and desserts, and Twilight Wish purchased ham steaks through a local distributor. Together, but following social distancing guidelines, our staff and volunteers delivered the bags of food to the seniors just before Christmas.

Our Northern New Jersey chapter organized another group wish granting also in time for the holidays. Among the simple needs items gifted to the seniors were basics such as sweatshirts, slippers, books and blankets. Small items that mean so much to these seniors. We will continue to focus on these group wishes that really make a difference to so many.

While we don't know what the future will bring, we will continue to keep doing all we can to make our world a nicer place to age, one wish at a time. We anticipate that as the vaccine becomes more widespread, we will once again be able to grant those larger, living life to the fullest wishes such as throwing the first pitch out at a baseball game or coordinating a reunion between siblings who haven't seen each other in years. I thank you all for your support and we look forward to many more years of working with all of you to continue celebrating our seniors and making their dreams come true.

Best wishes,

Cass Forkin

Founder & Chairman of the Board

About Twilight Wish Foundation

Mission and Vision

The mission of Twilight Wish is to honor and enrich the lives of deserving seniors through wish granting celebrations that connect generations. Our vision is to make the world a nicer place to age, one wish at a time. Through our good works, Twilight Wish is changing the culture of aging in the U.S.

History

Twilight Wish Foundation, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, was founded by Cass Forkin on July 1, 2003, in Bucks County, Pennsylvania after a life-changing encounter with several elderly women in a diner. As the women were counting out change to pay for their meal, it became clear to Forkin that they could barely afford even a simple buffet lunch in a diner, so she anonymously paid their bill. They insisted on knowing who treated them and said, "We didn't know there were still people like you out there. We thought you had forgotten us." Those comments and the women's gratefulness for Forkin's simple gesture led to the realization of the genuine need for a national organization that addressed not only simple and basic needs, but also the higher-level needs for an elder's wish of a lifetime.

Twilight Wish granted its very first wish on January 16, 2004, to Margaret Turner, an 81-year-old nursing facility resident. Margaret requested a tombstone for her deceased son who was buried in an unmarked grave. As of June 30, 2021, Twilight Wish had granted over 4,066 individual wishes to deserving elderly throughout the U.S. This equates to nearly one wish granted every other day since our founding in 2003.

Affiliate Information

National headquarters is located in Bucks County, Pa. This office manages and trains volunteers across the country. Chapters are headed by volunteer regional directors and chapter directors in Alabama, Arizona, New York, Indiana, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and California. We have seven chapters in Pennsylvania including (near Philadelphia), Pittsburgh, New Castle and Erie. Regional directors are responsible for fundraising, wish fulfillment, volunteer management and senior celebration events. All states with chapters have state charitable registrations as appropriate and are covered under national headquarters' 501(c)(3) charitable designation.

Our Programs

Wish Granting Program

Twilight Wish celebrates seniors and makes dreams come true by granting wishes for recipients over age 65 who do not have the ability to grant their own wishes or are permanent members of a long-term care facility. Wish granting provides a meaningful "thank you" for a lifetime of service to others. Sometimes the wish fulfills an immediate need. Sometimes it fulfills a last wish or a wish of a lifetime. Big or small, all wishes are significant to the recipient as they validate what the senior has specifically done for others over the years.

Intergenerational Education Program

Imagine an intergenerational exchange of knowledge, wisdom and understanding. This is exactly what we set out to accomplish with our Intergenerational Education Program which directly matches local school students with nearby nursing center residents. Students get directly involved with the entire wish-granting process. They learn all about senior citizens and their wishes, raise funds, and grant wishes at a celebratory event. As a result, seniors are validated and respected, and feel an increased sense of dignity and self-esteem. Students gain a respectful understanding of aging and develop compassion and patience in normal day-to-day experiences with seniors. They also learn the value of volunteerism and philanthropy.

DUTY Program

We feel it is our responsibility to honor and respect our elders in their twilight years. That's why we created our DUTY program. This program is designed to spontaneously thank seniors for all they have done for others by treating them to a meal. How it works: Print out a DUTY card from our website or contact us for preprinted cards. When you dine out and see a senior you would like to treat, simply pay the bill and hand the DUTY card to the server. In turn, the server presents the card to the recipient as a thank you for everything the senior has done for others over the years.

Circle of Angels Legacy Society

Our Circle of Angels Legacy Society allows donors to leave behind a legacy that makes a lasting difference for generations to come and directly benefit those in their twilight years. By designating a percentage of their estate, donors bring hope and joy to economically-disadvantaged seniors through our various programs.

Veterans Program

At Twilight Wish, we feel it is our privilege and duty to help fulfill the wishes of our elderly American veterans. Since our founding in 2003, we have honored more than 950 veterans. In fact, one-third of all the wishes we grant are for veterans. Sometimes a wish fulfills an immediate need. Sometimes it is a last wish or a lifelong dream. Large or small, all wishes provide a meaningful "thank you" to our veterans for their dedication and selfless service to our country.

Wishes Granted from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021

Date Granted	Recipient's Name	Wish Description
07/10/20	Lorraine K.	Vacuum cleaner
07/15/20	Pellegrino C.	Adjustable bed
07/21/20	Emma W.	Adjustable bed
07/25/20	Valeria W.	Have lock fixed
08/11/20	Helen V.	Hearing aids
08/17/20	Robert C.	Apartment cleaned
08/18/20	Florence P.	Gift basket
08/20/20	Frank S.	Wheelchair
08/20/20	Loretta R.	Hearing aids
08/26/20	Marguerite Y.	Sailing with her family
08/27/20	Century Plaza residents	Microphone and screen
09/16/20	Michael B.	Record player
09/23/20	Marianne S.	Dental work
09/29/20	Orpah V.	Twin mattress
09/29/20	Leslie M.	Full mattress
10/07/20	Joyce E.	Lift chair
10/15/20	, Terry L.	Lunch and fall decorations
10/10/20	, William R.	Electric wheelchair
11/14/20	Mary P.	Backup battery for oxygen unit
11/18/20	Sylvia C.	Lift chair
11/30/20	B'Nai B'Rith Covenant House	Stock their pantry for seniors
12/02/20	Harry H.	Prosthetic leg
12/03/20	Grundy Hall residents	Supply of yarn
12/11/20	50 Clark Rehab residents	Simple wishes
12/14/20	Della A.	Massage mat and support pillow
12/14/20	6 Butler County seniors	Simple wishes
12/14/20	125 Allegheny County seniors	Simple wishes
12/15/20	85 Bucks County seniors	Simple wishes
12/16/20	Jane S.	Hearing aids
12/23/20	Kathy W.	Hearing aids
12/23/20	130 Grundy Gardens seniors	Holiday meals
01/19/21	Mabel G.	New heater
02/12/21	Sandy W.	Wheelchair ramp
02/17/21	Deidre E.	New bed and bedding
02/24/21	Cheryl D.	Laptop computer
02/24/21	Goldie C.	Hearing aids
02/26/21	Dorothy R.	Puzzle books
03/30/21	Ernest W.	Lift chair
03/31/21	Mrs. W.	Oil tank refill
04/01/21	Morris T.	Telephone with voice amplifier
04/01/21	Barbara T.	QVC gift card for food
04/08/21	Mary B.	Power chair
		ΔH7.

Wishes Granted (cont'd)

04/09/21	Rosemarie D.	Sheets, comforter & scooter battery
04/17/21	Doris D.	New mattress
04/28/21	Carl B.	Hearing aids
04/30/21	George V.	Lift chair
04/30/21	Florann S.	Lift chair
05/10/21	John N.	Lift chair
05/20/21	Kathryn Z.	Hearing aids
05/25/21	88 Greenleaf residents	Simple wishes
06/01/21	Raymond K.	Lift chair
06/07/21	Elizabeth I.	Large button phone
06/11/21	Regina T.	Bedroom set
06/16/21	William D.	Hearing aids
06/17/21	Ida K.	Lift chair
06/22/21	Deborah B.	Refrigerator
06/23/21	JoAnn S.	Trees removed
06/23/21	Pauline H.	Trees removed
06/25/21	Juanita H.	Fountain restored
06/26/21	Claudine B.	New TV

Wish Stories



At the time of her wish, Marguerite was battling a rare metastatic cancer and in hospice care. Her wish was to sail around Manhattan with her family. Marguerite has very fond memories of sailing around the Virgin Islands in her younger years and often talked about how she wished to sail one more time. Her wish was granted by our Long Island chapter in August of 2020.

Della, 92, was also in hospice care at the time of her wish granting and was confined to either her bed or a chair. She wished for a warming massage mat and bed pillow to make her more comfortable in her final days. Although she was grateful her wish was granted by our Allegheny County chapter, her favorite thing was her wish certificate. Apparently, Della showed it to all her caregivers and visitors and would say "I can't believe someone things I'm special." Sadly, Della passed away a few months after receiving her wish.





In June of 2021, we granted the simple needs wishes of the 88 residents of Greenleaf Nursing and Convalescent home in Doylestown. The wishes granted included requests for stuffed animals, a birdhouse for a window, office supplies and a new belt. These wishes were granted thanks to generous donors who purchased items from a wish list and to funding received from the Tuesdays with Lori Legacy Program.

Twilight Wish Categories

The mission of Twilight Wish Foundation is to honor and enrich the lives of deserving seniors through wish granting celebrations that connect generations. Our vision is to make the world a nicer place to age, one wish at a time. Since our founding in 2003, we have granted the lifelong wishes of over 4,066 deserving senior citizens throughout the United States. Twilight Wish grants wishes to seniors, 65 and older, earning less than 200% of poverty level, or who are a permanent resident of a nursing facility.

Simple Needs wishes are for basic quality-of-life necessities such as healthcare and accessibility items including hearing aids, dentures, mattresses, appliances, wheelchairs, and walkers.

Living Life to the Fullest wishes are often the fulfillment of a lifelong dream such as publishing a book, riding in a hot air balloon, or meeting Merle Haggard.

Celebrating a Life wishes are meaningful and nostalgic wishes for recipients with limited life expectancies. Many of these wishes are for family reunions, visits to hometowns, and to return to a job or career one more time.

Veterans' wishes make up one-third of all Twilight Wishes granted. Veterans' wishes can fall into any of the other three programs, but we differentiate this program as it gives us all an opportunity to thank veterans, many in nursing facilities, for what they have specifically done for others over the years and acknowledge that we remember and care.

Total Annual Expenses



Our most current audited financial statements indicate 83% of expenses are allocated to direct program costs.

Twilight Wish Foundation 2020 - 2021 Board of Directors

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