

# STUDENT WISH LIST PROJECT

## PRESS RELEASE

Student Wish List Project  
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### STUDENT WISH LIST PROJECT GENERATES \$15,000 IN WISH LIST DONATIONS IN FIRST SIX MONTHS

*Madison Nonprofit Now Placing Volunteers in Community Service Opportunities*

MADISON, NJ (March 29, 2019) – Student Wish List Project (SWLP), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Madison, NJ, raised more than \$15,000 in ‘wish list’ item donations for its partnered charities in its first six months by helping students organize their own personalized online donation drives. For students who have conducted wish list drives, SWLP now offers placement in community service opportunities, including several exclusive to its volunteer opportunity database. Since its launch in September 2018, 60 students have conducted 28 wish list donation drives for partnered nonprofit organizations, and 28 SWLP volunteers have been placed. Student Wish List Project has also added five charitable partners to date for a total of 13, including its most recent partner Goryeb Children’s Hospital.

“We are very excited that Student Wish List Project continues to grow – not only in volunteers and donations but also in partners and in scope,” said Tania Lee, cofounder and executive director of Student Wish List Project. “We continue to add new charity partners that resonate with students of all ages, and have begun arranging community service opportunities for our volunteers with our partnered charities and the community at large.”

“Student Wish List Project has facilitated many donations for our Crisis Center in Newark, most recently expanding to our specialty programs Nancy’s Place for homeless youth with mental illness, and our mother-and-child program Raphael’s Life House,” said Janette Scrozzo, Development Director for Covenant House New Jersey. “We are inspired by and grateful for the students who are impacting the community in such a beautiful and significant way, raising donations that will help us serve homeless and trafficked youth across our state.”

#### **Helping Kids Give Back**

Student Wish List Project was created not only to help charities increase their wish list fulfillment but also to provide volunteer opportunities that are lacking for students of all ages. Kids browse the website, select a charity to support, and fill in a simple form customizing their donation drive. SWLP then creates a private donation drive webpage for them that can be sent to family and friends, allowing them to purchase donations on Amazon and have them shipped either directly to the receiving charity or to themselves so that they can deliver the donations in person.

Students who have conducted wish list donation drives are then eligible to apply to volunteer with SWLP’s partnered charities or in-house with Student Wish List Project. These student volunteers have access to SWLP’s database of volunteer opportunities, which includes exclusive opportunities as well as those within the larger community.

“We struggled to find community service experiences for my daughter, who is only in middle school but has wanted to do charitable work for years,” said Stacy Bernstein of Livingston, NJ, whose daughter conducted an SWLP donation drive and now volunteers for Good Grief. “Student Wish List

Project made it really easy for her to start giving back immediately as well as establish a regular volunteer schedule with her chosen charity.”

“Student Wish List Project has sent us some amazing volunteers,” said Sean Dorsa, Special Events Coordinator at NJAS, which provides care and services to the local HIV+ and LGBTQ+ community. “It’s great that they give kids an early start to volunteer work, as it helps them interact with respect and compassion with the world around them.”

### **Celebrating Six Months**

In honor of its first six months, SWLP celebrated with a bowling party donated by local entertainment venue Stryxe for fifth grade students who raised more than \$6,000 of wish list item donations. Also at the event were representatives from SWLP’s partnered charities, including Backpacks for Life, Covenant House, Deirdre’s House, Good Grief, Goryeb Children’s Hospital, JBWS, and NJAS.

“We are so grateful to Stryxe for so generously helping us to celebrate our early success,” said Ms. Lee. “Stryxe has always shown a deep commitment to our community and our children.”

### **ABOUT STUDENT WISH LIST PROJECT**

Student Wish List Project is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization based in Madison, NJ. It is designed to help charities and children’s hospitals increase their wish list fulfillment by helping students organize online donation drives for wish list items. Current partnered organizations include Backpacks for Life, Children’s Hospital of New Jersey, Covenant House, Deirdre’s House, Family Promise of Morris County, Good Grief, Goryeb Children’s Hospital, Homeless Solutions, JBWS, Insulin for Life, Madison High School, NJAS, and Saint Peter’s Orphanage.

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