



WORDS from WAYNE

The Holidays are upon us and, with that, I become very nostalgic and start to think back to what the holidays were like for me as a kid. It's funny, because no matter how old I get I remember my holidays as if they were yesterday. I am sure that most of you have vivid memories of your childhood holidays – you know, dinner with your family and extended families, smells from holiday baking, making snow angels and snowmen, open fires, decorating the Christmas tree, and finally the big day arrives. And, oh, the presents!! These are the kinds of memories that you will never forget and will continue to share with your children and grandchildren for years to come.

As I think back on my memories, one of the things that stand out most to me was how I felt when I was able to give a gift to someone. I remember how that giving not only made the receiver extremely happy but, even more, how happy it made me feel. Over the years my wife, my kids and grandkids have asked me what I want for Christmas and my standard answer was always “Peace on Earth”. But lately when they ask, my answer has changed. I now say “Make a Difference in the Life of a Child”. And, when they do, I cannot tell you how happy I am and how much I appreciate the gift.

I tell you this in hopes that when your family asks “What do you want for Christmas?” you can look them in the eyes and say, “Make a Difference in the Life of a Child”. So today I am asking you to please join with me and help us to continue to Make a Difference in the Life of a Child!

Over the years your generosity has allowed us to reach out and truly Make a Difference to many children and I am asking you once again to look deep into your heart (and your pocket) and help us put a smile on the face of a kid right here in our own back yard. We want to make certain that every child we help knows that they are important, they are valuable and they are worthwhile.

I want to thank you in advance for your past and continued support and I ask God to continue to bless you and your families. I want to wish you and your families the very best during this holiday season!!

Wayne





The Just for Kids Youth Board held its first Trick or Treat event at the Bay City Town Center. Our group greeted trick or treaters with candy, gift bags and games! We had a great turn out with lots of kids, candy, costumes and Halloween fun!



Shoe Shopping Extravaganza

So much fun! The Just for Kids Youth Board hosted our annual shoe shopping event this past August. This year, we hosted 25 local students. With your generous support of Just for Kids, each student was able to purchase a new pair of shoes to start the school year and have some dinner with our Youth Board. Pizza, shoes and fun!



Making A Difference Awards

Each school year, our board members reward and recognize kids at local elementary schools who are making a difference in their school. The schools always have a program in place to recognize these kids, and we come in once a month and choose one of those kids for an extra special Just for Kids gift. Each child chosen receives a Just for Kids t-shirt, candy and a gift card of their choice. Just for Kids believes it is important to let kids know that their efforts don't go unnoticed!



Local Kids Need Your Support

There is a part of Just for Kids that doesn't get highlighted with pictures and fun stories. That is our Student Needs program. We have made ourselves a resource to area schools and children's organizations. We are a place they can come with requests for items for kids they are working with who are in need. Below are some of the requests we've received from local school staff and organization directors who we work with. We hope that by sharing these needs with our readers, they will gain an understanding of real needs in our community and see how your continued support is helping us meet these needs.

"Hey, could you guys help me out with some leggings/bottoms and underwear for three kids who are living at the shelter?"

"Good morning, would you be able to help a 9-year-old boy and 10-year-old girl with some new tennis shoes? Their current shoes are literally falling apart."

"Hoping you can help us get some new tennis shoes for a 15-year-old boy. He wears a size 14!!"

"Hey, we've got a 17-year-old that needs cleats for football and the family just can't swing it this year. Can you help?"

"We need help! We have a student who needs a very expensive treatment for a bad case of lice. Please tell me you guys can help!"



Thank you to the Board Members of the Maier & Associates Charitable Foundation! Because of your donations of time and talent, we have been able to actively make a difference in the lives of kids in the Great Lakes Bay Region!

Wayne & Rita Maier, of Maier & Associates Financial Group, Founders
Lisa Rechsteiner, of Graff Bay City, President
Carrie Dahlberg, Executive Director
Laura Maier, of Maier & Associates, Secretary
Joseph Maier, of Maier & Associates, Treasurer
Stephanie Maier, Director of Youth Board
Amy McDaniel, of Maier & Associates, Board Member
Lynn Shawl, of Thelen Auto Group, Board Member
Molly Rauschert, of Thumb Bank, Board Member

Interview with a Youth Board Member

Name: Lola Fisher

Grade: 12th Grade

School: John Glenn High School

How long have you been a part of The Just for Kids Youth Board: 4 Years

What is your favorite project that you have been a part of on the youth board: My favorite project we do on the youth board is the “back to school shoe shopping event”.

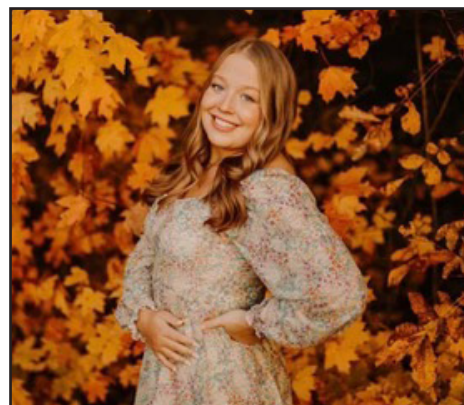
What part of the youth board mission do you connect with the most: I connect with giving back to the community. I know that there are a lot of children and families in the Bay Area community who are not as fortunate as I am, so to be able to give back to these kids and families is such a good, rewarding feeling.

Who/What has been your biggest inspiration while being a part of the youth board:

The person who has inspired me the most while being on the Just for Kids Youth Board is Stephanie Maier. The passion and heart that she has to organize all of these events and constantly think about giving back to the children in our community is so inspiring and makes me so happy to be a part of such a wholesome group. I am also inspired by the joy our work gives people. There is no better feeling than seeing someone so happy because of something you did or one of your actions.

What is something you do with the youth board that you wish to continue in your future:

One event I wish to continue to participate in through Just for Kids is Tinsel Tree. I love seeing everyone in the Christmas spirit and so happy. I also love the mission of Tinsel Tree and giving back to all our local classrooms, teachers, and students.



YOUR \$25 DONATION

Your \$25 donation could help us provide a gift card to a local business to be given to one of our Making a Difference award winners.

YOUR \$50 DONATION

Your \$50 donation could help us purchase shoes or clothing for a needy child in one of our local elementary schools.

YOUR \$100 DONATION

Your \$100 donation could help us purchase a scooter to be given away as a citizenship award to a local child.

YOUR \$150 DONATION

Your \$150 donation could help us purchase a bike to be given away at one of our bike drops at local elementary schools.

YOUR \$500 DONATION

Your \$500 donation could help support a Youth Board activity, allowing them to choose a local non-profit to purchase items for.

YOUR \$1500 DONATION

Your \$1500 donation could cover the cost of a college scholarship for an area high school student.

Please make checks payable to Just for Kids. Thank you for your continued support!