



Ambulance Wish South Australia

Program of Palliative Care SA

Annual Program Report 2025-2026

ambulancewishsa.org.au

The AWSA program is a collaboration of:



Palliative Care
South Australia



St John



Flinders
University

Acknowledgments

Palliative Care SA acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands and seas on which we live and work, and pay our respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

Thank you to our program steering committee members, staff, volunteers, service and site partners.

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Palliative Care South Australia is a Registered Charity and is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR), ABN: 66 185 542 917

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About Ambulance Wish SA

Our purpose is simple: to give South Australians living with a life-limiting condition access to the planning, coordination, specialist transport, photography and clinical care they need to create a memory that will last forever.

Ambulance Wish SA is a charity program of Palliative Care South Australia, operating in collaboration with St John Ambulance SA and Flinders University. The program launched on the 7th May 2024 with Simon, who's Ambulance wish was to have a pie and beer at the Adelaide oval with his mates.



Ambulance Wish SA's first Wish Recipient - Simon

A Year in a Glance 2025-26

The Ambulance SA program is proudly supported by the SA Government Department of Health, corporates, donations and fundraising activities.

Impact

30

Ambulance Wishes fulfilled

(↑ 114% for the year)



262.5

Volunteer hours

(↑ 102% for the year)



5

Health Service partners to support Wish fulfilment

(↑ 25% for the year)



48

Ambulance Wishes fulfilled since program inception – May 7th 2024



48

Wish memory packs distributed to Wish recipients, families, volunteers and partners



226k⁺

Total reach through social media

(↑ 437% for the year)



19,845

Website visits

(↑ 241% for the year)



\$16,615

Donations received

(↑ 23% for the year)



156

Annual Fundraising Dinner attendees

(↓ 19% for the year)



\$47,075

Raised at our Annual Fundraising Dinner

(↑ 23% for the year)



\$13,256

Value of volunteering

(Based on VA rate \$50.50/hr)



A Year in Wish Experiences

BRAD'S WISH



Date:
18th July 2025



Brad's Ambulance Wish:
To play pinball



Wish Type:
Offsite Wish



ANN'S WISH



Date:
24th July 2025



Ann's Ambulance Wish:
Have a Lions 360 experience at Monarto Safari Park



Wish Type:
Offsite Wish



DI'S WISH



Date:
13th August 2025



Di's Ambulance Wish:
Meet players from her beloved Port Adelaide Football Club



Wish Type:
Offsite Wish



KERRI'S WISH



Date:
4th September 2025



Kerri's Ambulance Wish:
Host a party for her daughter & friends at Adelaide Zoo



Wish Type:
Offsite Wish



JOHN'S WISH



Date:
7th September 2025



John's Ambulance Wish:
To create Father's Day memories



Wish Type:
Onsite Wish



C'S WISH



Date:
7th September 2025



John's Ambulance Wish:
To create Father's Day memories with his family



Wish Type:
Onsite Wish



READ MORE ABOUT THESE WISH EXPERIENCES:
ambulancewishsa.org.au/wish_experiences

Note: Some Wish Recipients request low/minimum engagement level – it is optional for all Ambulance Wish Recipients if they would like to have a photographer and/or to share their wish details or images on our website/socials.

BEVERLY'S WISH



Date:
9th October 2025



Beverly's Ambulance Wish:
Share a lunch with her loved ones at the Botanic Gardens



Wish Type:
Offsite Wish



SUE'S WISH



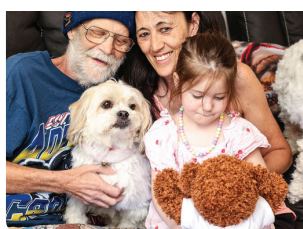
Date:
19th November 2025



Sue's Ambulance Wish:
Visit the new coastal trail at Port Noarlunga with family & friends



Wish Type:
Offsite Wish



REBECCA'S WISH



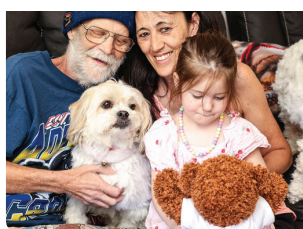
Date:
1st December 2025



Rebecca's Ambulance Wish:
Feed giraffes with her husband at Monarto Safari Park



Wish Type:
Offsite Wish



DARIN'S WISH



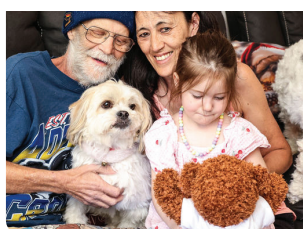
Date:
9th December 2025



Darin's Ambulance Wish:
Visit his home, dogs and garden with his family



Wish Type:
Offsite Wish



ANTOINETTA'S WISH



Date:
17th December 2025



Antoinetta's Ambulance Wish:
Visit home and enjoy quality time with her family



Wish Type:
Offsite Wish



MARIA'S WISH



Date:
22nd December 2025



Maria's Ambulance Wish:
To create Christmas memories



Wish Type:
Onsite Wish



READ MORE ABOUT THESE WISH EXPERIENCES:
ambulancewishsa.org.au/wish_experiences

Note: Some Wish Recipients request low/minimum engagement level – it is optional for all Ambulance Wish Recipients if they would like to have a photographer and/or to share their wish details or images on our website/socials.

RICK'S WISH



Date:
22nd December 2025



Rick's Ambulance Wish:
To create Christmas memories



Wish Type:
Onsite Wish



E'S WISH



Date:
19th January 2026



E's Ambulance Wish:
Spend time with her family at Seacliff Beach



Wish Type:
Offsite Wish

M'S WISH



Date:
11th February 2026



M's Ambulance Wish:
To attend her granddaughter's wedding



Wish Type:
Offsite Wish



EDDY'S WISH



Date:
13th February 2026



Eddy's Ambulance Wish:
To be surrounded by family for Valentine's Day



Wish Type:
Onsite Wish

B & H'S WISH



Date:
13th February 2026



B & H's Ambulance Wish:
Celebrate their love with a Valentine-themed photoshoot



Wish Type:
Onsite Wish



ROY & JOYCE'S WISH



Date:
13th February 2026



Roy & Joyce's Ambulance Wish: Celebrate their love with a special Valentine's photoshoot



Wish Type:
Onsite Wish

READ MORE ABOUT THESE WISH EXPERIENCES:
ambulancewishsa.org.au/wish_experiences

Note: Some Wish Recipients request low/minimum engagement level – it is optional for all Ambulance Wish Recipients if they would like to have a photographer and/or to share their wish details or images on our website/socials.

ANGELO'S WISH



Date:
19th February 2026



Angelo's Ambulance Wish:
To visit his beloved
Life Church



Wish Type:
Onsite Wish



COLIN'S WISH



Date:
6th March 2026



Colin's Ambulance Wish:
Connect with wildlife and
meet a wombat!



Wish Type:
Offsite Wish

ALF'S WISH



Date:
26th March 2026



Alf's Ambulance Wish:
Go to WOMADelaide and
celebrate his love of music



Wish Type:
Offsite Wish



A'S WISH



Date:
5th May 2026



A's Ambulance Wish:
To visit Mount Lofty
summit



Wish Type:
Offsite Wish

RAM'S WISH



Date:
5th May 2026



Ram's Ambulance Wish:
Visit his home and celebrate
his birthday with his family



Wish Type:
Offsite Wish



J'S WISH



Date:
25th May 2026



J's Ambulance Wish:
To go home



Wish Type:
Offsite Wish

READ MORE ABOUT THESE WISH EXPERIENCES:
ambulancewishsa.org.au/wish_experiences

Note: Some Wish Recipients request low/minimum engagement level – it is optional for all Ambulance Wish Recipients if they would like to have a photographer and/or to share their wish details or images on our website/socials.

TREVOR'S WISH



Date:
1st June 2026



Trevor's Ambulance Wish:
Attend an Adelaide Crows training session & meet the team



Wish Type:
Offsite Wish



R'S WISH



Date:
4th June 2026



R's Ambulance Wish:
Enjoy a champagne with her family at the beach during sunset



Wish Type:
Offsite Wish

J'S WISH



Date:
16th June 2026



J's Ambulance Wish:
To go home and spend time with her family and dogs



Wish Type:
Offsite Wish



NAOMI'S WISH



Date:
29th June 2026



Naomi's Ambulance Wish:
To see the lions at Monarto Zoo with her family



Wish Type:
Offsite Wish

READ MORE ABOUT THESE WISH EXPERIENCES:
ambulancewishsa.org.au/wish_experiences

Note: Some Wish Recipients request low/minimum engagement level – it is optional for all Ambulance Wish Recipients if they would like to have a photographer and/or to share their wish details or images on our website/socials.



A Year in Raising Community Awareness



226k+
Total reach through
social media



19,845
Website
visits



Sue's Ambulance Wish was to visit the Bluff Base Trail at Port Noarlunga.

AMBULANCE WISH HELPS PALLIATIVE PATIENTS FIND PEACE

If you knew you didn't have much longer to live, what would you choose to do?

Ambulance Wish SA (AWSA) helps people with a life-limiting condition experience a moment that truly matters to them — providing the planning, coordination, specialist transport, photography and clinical care needed to create a memory that lasts forever.

The program began in the Netherlands in 2007 under the *Stichting Ambulance Wens* foundation. Inspired by its impact, Palliative Care SA (PCSA) Chief Executive Officer Shyla Mills went on to establish the first Australian version of the program in Queensland before helping bring the same model to South Australia.

Shyla recalled that the idea first took hold when a community member from Palliative Care Queensland approached her after seeing the Dutch program in action and asked whether something similar could be created locally. The very first Queensland wish was for a 92-year-old woman who simply wanted a passionfruit ice-cream and a visit to the Brisbane Botanic Gardens. The story went viral, reaching more than 155 million people worldwide and sparking global conversations about the beauty and importance of palliative care.

"As nurses, we do beautiful things like this all the time, but it was incredible to see

how deeply it touched people's hearts," Shyla said. "It's amazing that the program now operates in so many different countries."

She believes it became one of the most successful awareness campaigns for palliative care, opening up conversations that many people had previously avoided.

"Palliative care can be difficult to talk about. People often associate it with sadness, but those of us who work in the field know it's actually one of the most meaningful areas of care," she said.

APRIL 2026 | 7



WE ARE SA

Giraffe's help grant special wish for Rebecca

07 January 2026

Ambulance Wish SA has created magical experiences for two terminally ill South Australians, with one requiring the support of some rather incredible animals.



WE ARE SA

Travis Boak, a pride of lions and a day playing pinball

27 August 2025

At the end stage of life, it is often the simple things that matter most. Ambulance Wish South Australia is helping to create memories that last forever.



A Year in Volunteer Engagement



262.5
Volunteer
hours



\$13,256
Value of
volunteering



"My favourite part of volunteering with Ambulance Wish SA is listening to people reflect on their lives and seeing families come together around their loved one."

– Ambulance Wish SA volunteer



A Year in Fundraising



\$47,075
Raised at our Annual
Fundraising Dinner



156
Annual Fundraising
Dinner attendees



\$16,615
Donations
received



Wishes simply couldn't come true without people like you.



A Year in Collaborations

Our Collaborative Partners



Our Major Funders and Donors



Government of South Australia
SA Health

Our Friends of Ambulance Wish SA

A recognised donor group of Palliative Care SA comprising individuals and organisations who contribute \$500 or more to the Ambulance Wish SA program, by way of a single donation or recurring donations, to support the program's ongoing capacity to fulfil the final wishes of South Australians receiving end-of-life care.

- Centennial Park
- Henley Opportunity Shop
- Stirling Community Shop
- Craig Nelson
- Ann Berriman
- Rajandra Arunasalam
- Benjamin Roberts
- Kate Clinch-Jones
- Shannon Beresford
- Philip Crouch
- Bridget Pepper
- Anthony & Michele Kittel
- Julie Taylor

* Additional donors have asked to remain anonymous

Our Health Service Partners

Health services, including hospices and palliative care services, that work in formal partnership with Palliative Care SA to support the delivery of the Ambulance Wish SA program, through activities such as referring eligible patients, assisting with clinical assessment and planning, and facilitating the safe fulfilment of final wishes for South Australians receiving end-of-life care.

- Northern Adelaide Local Health Network – Specialist Palliative Care Team
- Central Adelaide Local Health Network – Specialist Palliative Care Team
- Southern Adelaide Local Health Network – Specialist Palliative Care Team
- Barossa Hills Fleurieu Adelaide Local Health Network – Specialist Palliative Care Team
- Eldercare
- Motor Neurone Disease Association of South Australia (MNDSA)

Wish Site Partners

Venues and organisations that partner with Palliative Care SA to host Ambulance Wish SA wishes. They open their doors, often at no cost, so South Australians at the end of life can visit a place that matters to them.

- Adelaide Football Club
- Adelaide Oval
- Adelaide Zoo
- Life Church
- Monarto Safari Park
- Mount Lofty Summit Café
- Pearl Café, Aldinga Beach
- Port Adelaide Football Club
- SA Pinball and Arcade
- WOMADelaide

Wish Fulfillment Suppliers who provided a discounted rate

- Animals Anonymous
- Edge Printing
- John's Print Centre
- Luiza Photography
- Make my Bear (Wish bear)
- Newstyle Print
- Roy V Photography
- Russell Millard Photography
- Tania's Treasured Gifts (Bear T-shirts)

Corporates who donated an item

Businesses that support us by donating goods or items rather than money. Their in-kind contributions help us deliver Ambulance Wish SA wishes and support our fundraising activities, such as raffles, auctions and events.

- Adelaide Crows FC
- Adelaide Hills Window Cleaning
- Adelaide International
- Adelaide Yoga Flow
- Adelaide Zoo
- Angove McLaren Vale
- APY Gallery
- AR Massage Adelaide
- Bickfords
- Canoe the Coorong
- Charlesworth Nuts
- Cleland Wildlife Park
- Cobb's Hill Estate
- Commitment Issues
- DDS Diamonds
- East End Flower Market
- Flowers Everywhere
- Golding Wines
- Hugo Michell Gallery
- Lego Serious Play
- Living by Design
- Maggie Beer
- Mazi Wine
- McLaren Vale Hotel
- Odeon Star
- OSX
- OZ_E Karts
- Patritti
- Peter Fisher Artist
- Popeye
- Port Adelaide FC
- RAA
- REVL Training Norwood
- SA Life
- SACCA
- Saudade
- Sky City Casino
- Soal Sister Clothing
- State Opera
- The Gov
- Urban Climb
- WOMADelaide



11 Ways To Get Involved and Support Ambulance Wish South Australia



1 Donate a Wish forward

ambulancewishsa.org.au/donate-a-wish-forward

2 Volunteer to help on a sausage sizzle or a fundraising event

ambulancewishsa.org.au/volunteer-for-the-ambulance-wish-sa-program



3 Host your own community fundraising activity

ambulancewishsa.org.au/fundraise-ambulance-wish-sa

4 Volunteer to be a part of the Wish team

ambulancewishsa.org.au/volunteer-for-the-ambulance-wish-sa-program



5 Attend our Annual Fundraising Dinner

ambulancewishsa.org.au/annual-fundraising-dinner

6 Make a donation: Help us fulfill more wishes

ambulancewishsa.org.au/donate



7 Donate an item for our Fundraising Auction

ambulancewishsa.org.au/annual-fundraising-dinner

8 Become a friend of Ambulance Wish

ambulancewishsa.org.au/friends-of-ambulance-wish-sa



9 Become a Corporate Partner of the program

ambulancewishsa.org.au/corporate-partner

10 Leave us a gift in your will

palliativecaresa.org.au/workplace-giving-and-bequests



11 Buy a Play For Purpose ticket

playforpurpose.com.au/ambulance-wish-sa



“Personally, I felt privileged to be part of such a heartfelt experience. It was a reminder of why we do what we do, and how small acts of kindness can leave lasting impacts.”

– Wish Clinical Escort



The AWSA program is a collaboration of:



hello@ambulancewishsa.org.au | ambulancewishsa.org.au