



Zlatá rybka
Annual report
2022



Basic Information

Name: Zlatá rybka, z. ú.

Established: 24 February, 2015, by registration at the Municipal Court in Prague

Headquarters: Západní 488/21, Praha 6, 162 00

ID: 03824829

Web: www.zlatarybka.cz

People at Golden Fish

Founders: Katarína a Ondřej Vlčkovi

Board of Directors:

Ondřej Vlček – Chairman of the Board of Directors

MUDr. Katarína Vlčková – Member of the Board of Directors

MUDr. Irena Závadová – Member of the Board of Directors

PhDr. Ivana Plechatá – Member of the Board of Directors since October 2021

Auditor: Bc. Martina Břeňová

Statutory representative, Director: Mgr. Karin Pospíšilová

Implementation team: Stela Ambrosová, Jan Bárta, B.Th., Mgr. Klára Besuchet, Aneta Borková, Bc. Tomáš Cahel, Mgr. Matylda Holečková, Bc. Jana Horáková, Ing. Tomáš Hornek, Bc. Jakub Chramosta, Bc. Kristián Jindra, Mgr. Anna Juráčková, Mgr. Anna Kaločová, MBA, Bc. Martin Kladiiva, Linda Machalová, DiS., Mgr. Josef Nedorostek, Bc. Lucie Pekárková, Mgr. Kristýna Pelcová, Tereza Soldánová, Mgr. Zuzana Vaculíková, Ing. Kristýna Vítovcová, Michal Zborník

Accountant: Ing. Kateřina Ježková

PR and social network: Ing. Marta Plecítá



Our Mission

Golden Fish grants wishes to seriously ill children. We want to make the dreams and desires of such children to become a part of the care they receive. We do everything we can to help each child make one of those wishes to come true.

Introduction

One thousand wishes realised...

... is the joy of thousands of children, their parents and friends, but also those who participate in making children's wishes come true. At the same time, it is a thousand thanks from us, the founders of Golden Fish, with gratitude for every child's face that Golden Fish brought a smile to, and for everyone who, with Golden Fish, can touch the troubled children's destiny and encourage them on their journey with their open heart and good will.

One thousand wishes coming true is not just a round number with three zeros. It is a chain of miracles that we have had the opportunity to observe with bated breath for the eighth year and which constantly convinces us that hope never dies. Every child's smile is permanently written into the lives of those who witness it and can enrich the perception of the world around us.

Many people understand a miracle as something supernatural, like something that cannot be rationally explained. The Golden Fish is the place for miracles that are completely natural. They are not a mystery, they are magic, something that seems beyond our senses at first but has a very visible impact.

The carriers of the miracles are children and their readiness to trust or even believe. Children can open up to what they actually wish for, regardless of the actual feasibility of their wish. They can dream their dream down to the smallest detail and entrust it to Golden Fish with the utmost confidence. Children are able to draw from their dreams and subsequently from the realization of their dreams, and with their immediate joy and sincerity they enrich all who witness their miracle.

The driving force behind these children's miracles are the people of good will who stand behind Golden Fish. Here, we would like to thank all of them.

Above all, this is to thank to the entire Golden Fish team, those who built and created it from the very beginning, but also to those who have only been with Golden Fish for a short time. We especially appreciate the great openness of each team member towards children's dreams. What is essential to the charm of the Golden Fish is the ability to listen. For children, the key is a sense of security and the possibility to think and live their dream to the fullest. They need to feel a genuine interest in what they are experiencing. They need to know that their wishes matter, that adults take them seriously and that despite all that their disease has taken from them, there is something or someone who can work with their potential and wants to do something good – just for them. With their sincerity and immediacy, children can achieve great things that we adults would not dare to do many times. And the Golden Fish team plays a big role in that.

In addition to its own team, more and more people have been enriching Golden Fish who completely selflessly, without need for reward or visibility, and often very modestly but at the same time generously, dedicate their precious time to little dreamers. They are the ones who prepare gifts or adventure trips for children, who can share their admirable skills with children, or even those whom children want to meet because they are their role models. It is beautiful to know that there are people around us who are exceptional in their abilities but at the same time extraordinarily human and can often give children more than what they asked for. These people are willing to give them a piece of themselves.

Finally, one thousand wishes mean one thousand cases of support from healthcare professionals – doctors, nurses, therapists, and caregivers. Golden Fish thanks them all for their personal interest in their young patients, for providing children not only professional help but also enormous emotional support during demanding treatment. Thank you for mediating the message of the Golden Fish with confidence to young patients and motivating them to dream. Last but not least, these professionals carefully prepare the children so that the realization of the dreams is successful and is not only a source of joy, but also a tool for treatment.

Katarína a Ondřej Vlčkovi
Founders of Golden Fish



In 2022

Every 36 hours

we received one application

and **every 40 hours**

one big wish came true

Every 15 hours

*we met personally with
the dreamers and their
families.*

Everyone has a wish

You are holding the eighth Annual Report of Golden Fish in your hands. It offers a story about what new things Rybka experienced in the past year, what she learned and, most importantly, what she had brought to the lives of dreamers. Over the past seven years we have gotten used to the fact that every Golden Fish Annual Report is something special and that a thin line of one theme or event winds through each of them which frames the recent year and gives it a specific colour. This one will be no different.

In 2022, Rybka experienced relief from the diminishing Covid measures and fulfilled wishes that she was unable to fulfil over the previous two years, and also... anxiously waited to see if the one special thing would “come or not”. Do you know what we mean by that special thing? Maybe you do, maybe you are guessing – it is the wish number 1,000! It is not that we collect trophies and indulge in measurable milestones, but rather that we subconsciously felt that this symbolic number would be an opportunity for Golden Fish to reflect, to look back and also to step into a new stage. That's what happened and we would be happy if this annual report provides an insight into the fishing trip from the first fulfilled wish in 2015 until the present day.

At the same time, we owe you a more detailed insight into the last category of wishes, about which we had not written much in the past annual reports. It is a wish from the fifth category “I wish to be like”. And just in time, the wish number 1,000 we fulfilled belonged precisely to this category. Coincidence or not? Who knows? ...

We want to say the most important thing at the outset as it remains unchanged over the years. Regardless of which one of these thousand wishes our Golden Fish fulfilled, she was always there with her whole heart and soul for the dreamers and their families. In each of the stories, she always fully believed that even a seemingly small dream can mean great hope, that the beating of the heart with joy for “THIS big wish” can bring new strength and hope at the right moment.... In a nutshell, there are moments in life that cannot be quantified with

money or weighed on scales, and yet you feel their power for all involved. How to measure emotion and joy, tears or laughter?

Start with the following pages and join us in composing a mosaic of experiences, fragments of a thousand unforgettable stories.

To be like ...

What is typical for the wish “to be like ...”?

The wish to “to be like ...” has a slightly different experience than “to have something” or “to meet someone”. Sometimes it can go deeper, it puts the dreamer in a different role than the one he has been playing 365 days a year, for several years, or sometimes all his life. For one day he has the opportunity to experience the feeling that “I am someone else”. For once the world does not revolve around my illness, I'm not the one who brings worry to parents and work to doctors. I am...someone else and I dare to believe it.

For younger children, wishes would allow them entrance into a world of fantasy and fairy tales. It can give the older ones a chance to try out the profession they are considering for their adult life, or even one that they know they will never do but have a desire to experience it.

For dreamers undergoing treatment, such a wish means an opportunity to find themselves in a different reality for a day. For those who have completed treatment, it can symbolize stepping into a new life.

“I admire children's ability to really 'be someone else', disconnect from the real world and their role in it and immerse themselves in the experience. It was very intense and inspiring for me as well.”

Karin, Director





Why is this category not chosen by many more children?

The Golden Fish has several possible explanations for this. There is a logical one – namely, that “to be like” is an attractive possibility, but in the end it will be surpassed by something even more attractive. Dreamers themselves sometimes tell Golden Fish that they have an idea of what they want to become, but it means even more to them to receive something that will stay with them, or to experience a longer journey with the whole family.... in short, they say to themselves that “becoming someone” is too fleeting. For example, this is what Golden Fish experienced with a dreamer whose wish was to have a costume of a character from his favourite computer game. For a while, he considered becoming the same fighter himself for a day. However, he decided on a costume to keep it forever and play with it whenever he wants.

Then Rybka knows one more reason why she has only fulfilled five such wishes so far. She met big dreamers who thought the “to be like” category was for little kids. “I’m not going to play anything,” they thought. Maybe they even thought of something crazy, but they realised they were too old for it, or their imagination offered them an impossible wish. “I would like to be a superhero. But that’s stupid, I’m not going to fly between the buildings,” one young dreamer thought smartly. And he was right. Rybka really could not arrange that.

And when it comes to the opportunity to try out a real profession? In turn, some older dreamers believe that they will turn such a wish into reality themselves in just a few years when they become adults...

“If I were to choose the category ‘to become someone else’, I would like to experience what it’s like to live in a castle and be part of the royal family. I wonder what it’s like, the dress is prepared on your bed, everyone is taking care of you and does your make up, then going to the royal banquets... that’s kind of my childhood dream.”

Stela, Former Dreamer, Chairwomen of the Dreamers Board



Když jsme se pomalovali
vodovými barvičkami,
stali jsme se
opravdovými indiány.



"I learned not to answer questions at meetings about what my most interesting wish was or what stuck in my mind the most. Every child thinks differently about their wish, they have unique reasons why they wish for it. Everyone musters up the courage to do it differently, looks forward to it differently, and experiences the whole process in their own way. Every wish is so unique and interesting to me; therefore, I don't think it's the right to rank the wishes. Thus, I always answer that the most interesting wish is the one we are currently discussing with the child."

Jakub, Communications with children and families

"From the very beginning, I have been surprised by how often seriously ill children are more mature than their healthy peers. Talking to them is rewarding and often very unique."

Martin, Production Team

"An experience tends to fade away, but it happens that those important and beautiful moments resurface. For example, when a child looks at photos from that day, or watches a video with the whole family. He experiences joy, surprise or wonder again."

Karin, Director

What is it that makes this category so difficult?

It might be the realization that reality cannot be escaped and that becoming someone else with the help of a spell really only takes one day. That stepping out of your dream role can be painful. Often in Golden Fish we feel as if we are moving between two worlds together with the dreamer. The real one, where the common experience has an end and a beginning. And the second, when you just wave a magic wand and wish for anything, because there is nothing that cannot come true. Not even recovery.

There may also be a moment when the uniqueness of this category will be felt particularly intensely by the Golden Fish. This is when circumstances change and, for example,

a favourable health prognosis becomes unfavourable. Golden Fish is a part of these stories as well. It is precisely with the desire to “to be like” that we perceive the enormous power of a day lived to the fullest in a dream role.

How are these wishes fulfilled from the Production Team’s point of view?

“What can the Golden Fish do to make the dreamer truly feel like BECOMING what they desire? Can we arrange it?” asked our production staff for each of these wishes. What kind of people we need and how many should there be? What roles to give to others? What to prepare for a meal? What to say? What props will support the dreamer in his role?... In short, these wishes are thought out long in advance and a large part of the team and volunteers are involved. However, the result is worth it and so is the intensity of the days spent working toward it.

Because what kind of princess would she be if she did not have ladies-in-waiting, a carriage with horses, a jester, a nanny, or a cook? And what would another fairy-tale character do without magical animals and lots of magic around?

The realisation of these wishes is simply unique. Its result cannot be ordered or bought anywhere. Location, people, props, dramaturgy... all this is created in a unique combination for one dreamer for one single day.

Was any wish impossible to fulfil?

Some wishes really cannot be fulfilled, even with the greatest magic of the Golden Fish. This is when the dreamer wishes to become someone who has special abilities that require years of work on himself. For example, we received a wish to sing with a favourite band at a concert, or another for becoming a pianist... At a moment like this, dreamers are just like the rest of us. We can only do as much as what we have learned ourselves.

Other wishes are unrealistic because they came to us from a too distant world of fantasy, for example, a wish to become the superhero of the future forever and having a chip embedded in his head... the Golden Fish's fins won't reach there, at least for the time being!



The story of princess Nelinka

(published with the approval of our Dreamer)

Dreamer Nela, 8 years old

Wish: "I would like to be a princess at Krásný Dvůr castle. The dress should be green, I have the jewellery :-)"

Nela was one of our first dreamers, more precisely the tenth. As soon as the Golden Fish was born, she met this cheerful and warm-hearted little lady, who was quite clear about her wish: to become a real princess and spend one day at Krásný Dvůr Castle. We were excited and a little nervous. "What will it be like? How to understand it and what shall we plan? Will the dreamer be satisfied? Will she experience exactly what she expects from this day?" We asked ourselves these questions and were ready to do our best.

Personal impression of the member of our team Communications
with children and families

5 October 2015, Žatec

The entire Gold Fish team had lived for about three weeks occupied with the preparations. We needed to find more people because a real princess is supposed to have a lot of courtiers. And we needed to invent and order props and take care of the details that will complete an unforgettable experience for Nela. Four days before the actual implementation we took a chest with the dress, shoes and the tiara to Princess Nela. She was surprised and the moment she put on her tiara, she began to enjoy her role properly... at that moment we thought that if Nela took her role seriously now and would last until D-day, her mum is in for an interesting time. We were pleased by the idea and set off to start further preparations.





9 October 2015, Krásný Dvůr

On that morning, Nela had still no idea that her wish was about to come true. Her mother did not reveal anything to her and took her on a “trip to see her aunt, to show off in her clothes”. We were waiting at the castle and were looking forward to it... so many preparations, so many people, volunteers... and the costumes! Horses and carriage! It was a real sensation worthy of a princess. However, when Nela and her mother passed them on the driveway, Nela said enthusiastically... “Mum, those are beautiful horses!”... she had no idea that they were here because of her. In few minutes, I already welcomed her, and she was watching when I told her to get into the prepared carriage. She couldn't help but be amazed... We talked on the way through the castle park, they took some photos... Nela looked like a true princess!

When we arrived at the castle, the courtiers were already lined up in neat formation. We were warmly welcomed by the nanny, and we moved to the first floor where she began to tour the castle and complete tasks... French lessons, music and dance, and of course, court etiquette! Most of all, Nela enjoyed dancing on the wheelchair with her mother to the song “Královské reggae”...

At the end of the long corridor, the door to the beautiful dining room opened, and there a laid table and two gifts from the children of Podbořany Secondary School were waiting for the princess – a two-tiered cake and a hand-made tiara with a four-leaf clover.

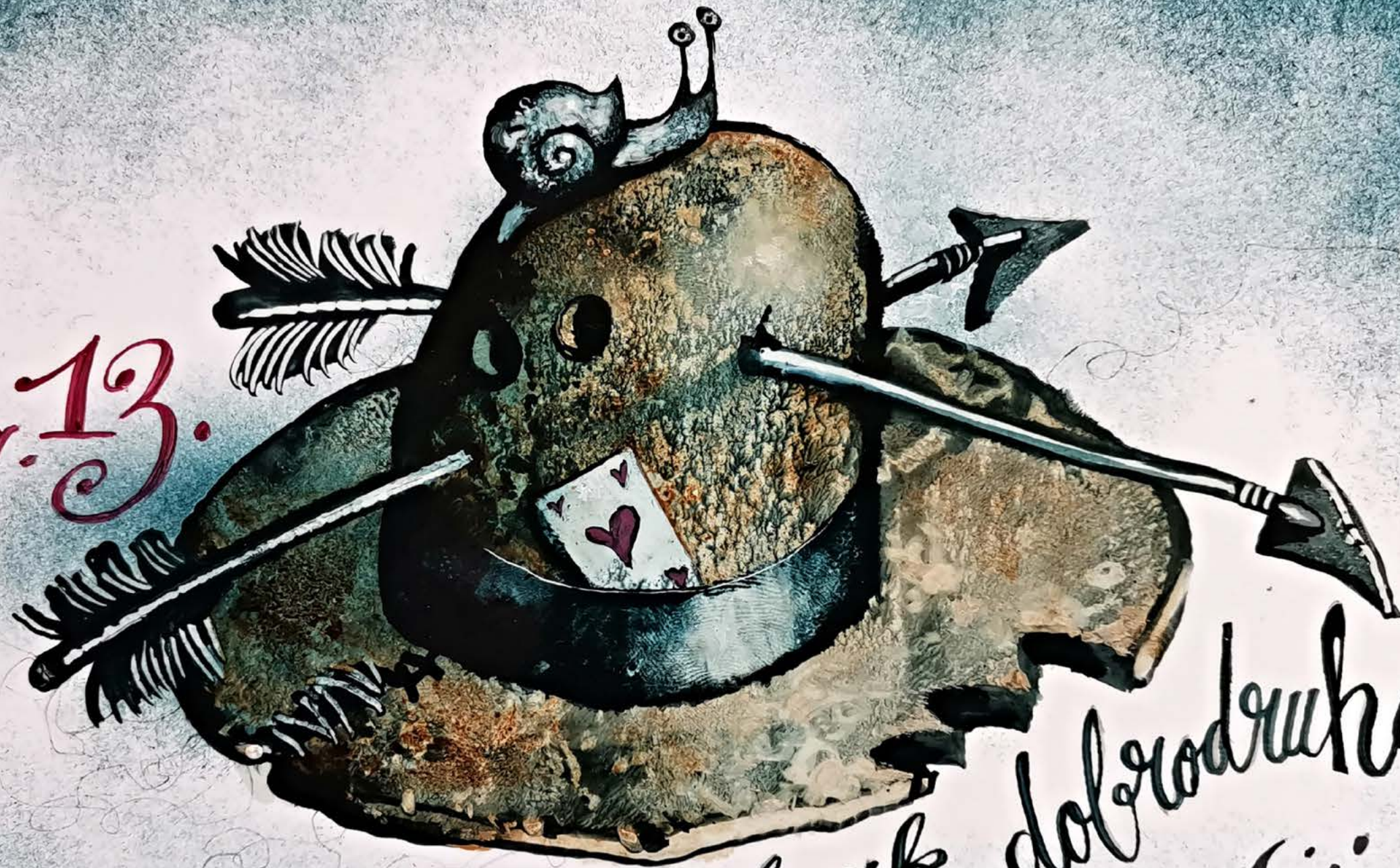
The princess was already hungry, so we started eating. The jester, as it was in his job description, regularly disrupted the entire feast and flirted a little with the princess, and she enjoyed it with a smile. The French singer made our meal enjoyable by playing a stringed instrument, interspersed with polite conversation and cheerful travel stories...

In the end, the princess went to take pictures in the rooms she liked the most.

After a couple hours, we could see Nelinka was tired of so many adventures. We said goodbye with a giant hug, not only to the princess, but also to her mother and sister Klárka who accompanied her the whole time. There was no shortage of tears... If these tears would turn into pearls, this amazing women trio would be very, very rich indeed!

So wrote Karin, the Court Lady

Fig. 13.



Klobouk dobrodruha
...



1,000 wishes – 1,000 stories

The wish number 1,000 was chosen precisely from the category “to be like”. We are happy about this “coincidence”. It is as if Golden Fish proved us right that each category of wishes is important and waiting for “its” dreamer.

We will tell you more about this particular wish “to become a lawyer for a day” in the following pages.

How was it different to fulfil the wish number 1,000 compared to the very first wish?

It was probably easier given the 8 years of experience. It had its 999 times proven process... But somehow, in a way, it was the same as the first time, with some trepidation about who is waiting for Golden Fish, how the first meeting will go, what the dreamer will wish for and if we can make his dream come true.

This makes the mission of the Golden Fish inexhaustible. Every day begins with new stories about joy and hope, and Golden Fish herself experiences them with the dreamers as if it were the first time.

“For me personally, it was the first wish in the ‘to be like’ category that I was working on. And it immediately had such a well-thought-out motivation. I realised even more that Golden Fish does not only fulfil ‘childish dreams’, but that they are dreams that have a much greater impact on the dreamer’s future life. Jakub showed me that Golden Fish not only influences the moment in which a gift is given, or a journey is realised... but that a fulfilled dream can bring motivation for the future and anticipation of where the dreamer will aim next. Whether it concerns a future job or planning some new experience.”

Josef, Communications with children and families

"I was looking forward to the wish to 'to become a lawyer'. This category is always a bit challenging, and we don't often see it realised. When, during the planning process, we came to the point that we would approach Palacký University, I was happy to be in contact with my alma mater again."

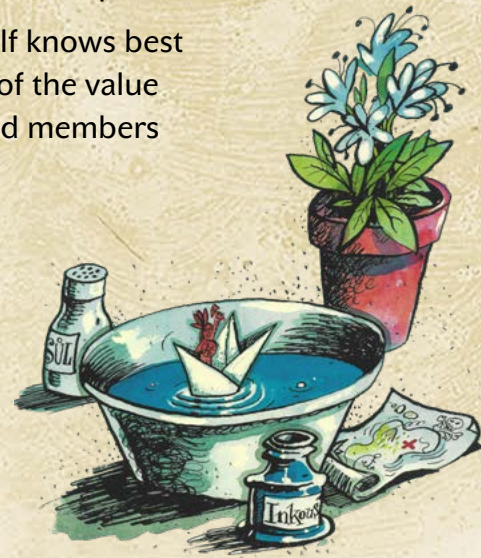
Tomáš, Production Team

What was the most important aspect for making 1,000 wishes come true?

Hundreds of pages could be written about the whole process of fulfilling wishes, about entering and leaving families' stories, about dealing with expected and unexpected situations, and in all of this the word RESPECT emerges as perhaps the most important. This means respect for any wish, even if we know that it is probably unfulfillable for the dreamer. For example, when the prognosis of the disease speaks unequivocally, and yet Golden Fish knows that the most she can do is to preserve the dreamer's hope. What if making such a wish was important to her/him? What if the whole process meant support for parents who needed someone to believe in a miracle with them? At times, empathy and respect can be a bridge between helplessness and hope.

This also means respect for the fact that the dreamer himself knows best what to wish for. In fact, getting rid of the adult perception of the value of things sometimes takes a bit of work even for experienced members of our team (Communications with children and families).

"This? Is this really what a little dreamer wishes for the most?" our staff sometimes asks in their mind when fulfilling a seemingly banal wish in the production. However, thanks to the process that the dreamer goes through from the first visit to the process of consideration and making a wish, and then to the experience of its fulfilment, they soon discover that just such a simple thing can be as valuable as a trip



to the other side of the world for someone else. For "something ordinary" in the dreamer's story there may be a reason so deep that we cannot see it with the naked eye.

Last but not least, Golden Fish carefully guards respect for the process. We don't know what we are getting into and who we will meet? Do we know all the answers? Does the dreamer need more weeks to think about it? All is well and the river of life flows where it should. Sit tight in the boat, dear dreamer, and be ready to lean into the oars when the moment is right.

"I see 1,000 fulfilled wishes as an important milestone. 1,000 wishes, 1,000 stories, 1,000 written letters. Behind this I see a lot of work and effort by everyone in Golden Fish, many personal and online meetings, a lot of kilometres spent in the car, but above all countless smiles, a huge amount of emotions and happiness, tears of sadness and joy."

Michal, Communications with children and families

"Finding and passing on pets often sticks in my memory for a long time. Puppies, kittens, agamas... I am moved by how much joy a living creature can bring to a dreamer. Some families contact us even after some time, and when I see what kind of partner the pet has become for the dreamer I am happy that there were two who needed each other."

Jana, Production Team

"When I think about one thousand fulfilled wishes, I wonder what their impact was and is. What they meant to our dreamers and their families. How fulfilled wishes left their mark on their lives. How do they influence grown-up dreamers, what are they like in the memories of surviving parents, siblings and grandparents. If the wish fulfilled still impacts their lives. Sometimes the circumstances make it so that we get a message to the dreamer or family even years later, or even meet as a result of coincidence. Then we see that the experience of a fulfilled wish can have long-term effects that bring new perspectives to dreamers and can influence their next decisions, their lives. And that is indeed a great joy."

Karin, Director



Have the fulfilled wishes changed over time?

Children and their wishes do not change that much. What evolves though, are the circumstances of the world around us. That being said, the factor that so far has spoiled the nature of the wishes the most was one small virus with great power. In the years when Covid swept through the world, Golden Fish could not arrange many types of experiences – especially the ones linked to any type of travelling. Needless to say, with seriously ill children it was necessary to carefully observe safety measures. That is how a series of experiential dreams had to turn into material wishes.

One thing has been growing with a steady and reliable pace over time – the number of fulfilled wishes per year. In the first year, Golden Fish first needed to let the world know about herself, to fulfil the first few wishes and experience what it is like. Over time, the team itself and the number of received applications grew. Today, at key hospital workplaces, you can almost always find someone who has personal experience with Golden Fish, and 40% of applications from dreamers come to us based on the recommendation of doctors and other experts.

“In 2022, Covid slowly became more and more manageable, so it was possible to fulfil experiential wishes. We had a lot to do in production and the summer holidays were full of realisations. However, the cooperation between Prague and Olomouc worked (and still works) perfectly, we helped each other, for example, with driving or escorting dreamers to the airport, and thanks to this, it was possible to fulfil a large number of these travel wishes.”

Tomáš, Production Team

The 1,000th wish that came true

(published with the approval of our Dreamer)

Dreamer Jakub, 18 years old

Wish: "I wish I could experience a normal day as a lawyer. I would like to be a lawyer and defend or sue the other party in court. I would like to be in the role of a lawyer in legal advisory. I would like to visit the law office during the day. I would like a lawyer to accompany me to all events during the day. I wish this because I want to know my future profession and daily routine."

The Golden Fish team met Jakub for the first time through the screen in 2021. At that time, we agreed to meet online due to Covid measures and with respect for Jakub's health. He joined his mother and was clear that he did not need anything material. "I have everything," he said with a smile. Then he thought that he would like to visit his favourite camp, where he had been going for many years. But its participants could not be more than 18 years old, which was no longer the case for Jakub for the upcoming holidays and the exception for which the Golden Fish requested could not be arranged. Therefore, the wish remained unspoken...

At the next meeting in February 2022, we saw how thoroughly Jakub was thinking about his wish. We developed nine different variants together, talked about their pros and cons, and Golden Fish was curious which would turn out to be the "best" one. In the end, Jakub still wanted to take time to think and clarify which wish would bring the most benefit to his life. We didn't meet again until the summer holidays.

Jakub welcomed me and went directly to the only option. He was clear: "I want to be a lawyer." I already knew this option from the second meeting and we were interested in Jakub's motivation. He decided to use the Golden Fish's charm to grant a wish that would benefit his future as much as possible and do a little dry run of the profession he had been thinking about. "It's another thirty years of life and it's the most valuable thing I can get from Golden Fish," he commented on his adult decision.

Personal impression of the member of our team Communications with children and families

First part of the realisation, 24 November, 2022, Olomouc

For Golden Fish, Jakub's wish was quite atypical, and for me, moreover, the first of the "to be like" category. Thus, I looked forward to the journey to its fulfilment. I was curious and at the same time felt responsible as I had witnessed the previous months how responsibly Jakub approached the choice of wishes.

However, after consulting with lawyers, production manager Tomáš and I discovered that there is an even better option: a so-called moot court, or simulated trial. Tomáš approached the law faculty of Palacký University and everything started to move. Dr. Šínová, who teaches at Palacký University, helped us arrange the moot court. We also established contact with attorney Zdeňko Kopečný, who promised to arrange for the dreamer to visit the court process and the law office. We began to believe that the wish will be fulfilled beyond expectations. Everyone who helped us was very busy with their time, and in addition, the dates of the actual court hearings are fixed, so we divided the wish fulfilment into two days.

On the first day, we met with Jakub and his family. I handed Jakub the letter and explained to him what would follow. In fact, he already knew about some things in advance because I sent him the preparation materials for the court hearing with the students. We went to the faculty together and Jakub told me on the way that he was looking forward to it and was very curious about everything. A group of students led by Dr. Šínová and a judge from the district court in Přerov awaited us. In the classroom, which resembled a courtroom, our simulated divorce began, where Jakub was completely in the role of a lawyer with everything that goes with it. He had to address the judge, stand up when he wanted to speak, ask for his turn to speak, respond to evidence, etc. The trial lasted one hour and thirty minutes. Jakub had his adviser, who discussed everything with him and explained to him how he should react. In the end, Jakub won his first trial as a lawyer, and he even received praise from the judge, who highlighted his discipline. Jakub was surprised at what the whole job actually consisted of and

I could see that he was happy. He has a great talent for listening, which is crucial for the work of a lawyer. When I drove Jakub home, he told me that he had an even clearer plan to become a lawyer. Even so, he was looking forward to the upcoming court hearing and suspected that there would be a second decisive moment..

First part of the realisation, 7 December 2022, Olomouc

After a complex search for the most suitable case and date, I went to see Jakub again. He was already waiting for me at home and very excited. Mr. Kopečný and I met together at the District Court in Olomouc. He explained to Jakub in detail how things worked in court and how to read the individual proceedings described at the doors of the courtrooms. We were waiting for a preliminary release from prison. At 2 PM they let us into the hall and brought in a handcuffed prisoner. The process has begun. It turned out well for our prisoner and he was released on parole with the emphasis that he must stay away from drugs and alcohol as he committed his crime under the influence of these intoxicants. After the trial ended, the judge met with Jakub and explained to him why it turned out that way, as well as other details of the trial, and then he showed us the main courtroom. After saying goodbye to the judge, we went to the lawyer's office. This is where the final event of this wish began to take place, namely the presentation of a normal day for a lawyer. For example, Jakub could try to calculate the cost for a case. In the end, we sat in the office for a long time and Jakub passionately asked about all the details regarding the work of a lawyer, but he was also interested in his studies. When we left at 5 PM, Jakub said that this is exactly how he imagined his wish. He was very happy to be able to experience everything and was beaming with satisfaction from everything he experienced and learned. He even recommended Golden Fish to always divide such wishes into two days. He said it would be too challenging to experience everything at once. When he said goodbye, he told me that he was really convinced that he would apply to law school in a year and wanted to become a lawyer. The scales have been levelled. And so Golden Fish was able to fulfil another wish again, and with this also a nice round thousand. Kubo, we are keeping our fins crossed, may your other dreams also come true!

Josef, Communications with children and families





Dream Chair

The Dream Chair is the heart and soul of the Golden Fish's home. It invites you to rest comfortably in soft cushions, it is very comfy with wide backrests. It is the place where the biggest wishes are often spoken out loud. And where sometimes even the dreamers themselves are surprised by what they wish for the most, from the bottom of their hearts.

The Dream Chair has this magical power to help a person tune into themselves. It works for both children and adults. And even though we walk by it every day at Golden Fish, we rarely actually sit in it.

"When I joined Golden Fish, the Dream Chair was sacred to me, it seemed to me that no one but the dreamers for whom it is intended should sit in it. But later it dawned on me that this very chair is a symbol of dreaming, and that there is a dreamer in each of us who has her own wishes, and each of us should take the time to sit down and think about our dreams and what we can do to make them come true. And that's why for me the Dream Chair has become a symbol of the fact that everyone can dream, regardless of the current life situation."

Aneta, Communications with children and families

To have its AMBASSADORS? That would be a wish come true for Golden Fish

We really wanted them. And so we are happy to have the first real fish AMBASSADORS.

Ambassadors are devoted people who systematically recommend the Golden Fish to potential dreamers: doctors, station nurses, psychologists and other experts working in specialized workplaces where they come into contact with seriously ill children.

The ambassadors make sure that the dreamer learns about Golden Fish at the right moment because the appropriate time can be different for everyone. And they also receive all of the important information about the values of Golden Fish, about the carefully guarded privacy, etc. In short, they learn about what exactly Golden Fish can do and how it fits into the entire process of caring for seriously ill children.

Our goal is to have an ambassador at every key workplace throughout the Czech Republic where seriously ill children are treated.

"From the beginning, I had a great respect and even fear before the creation of the ambassador network. But every time I see how passionate our ambassadors are about Rybka and feel their enthusiasm, I am moved. It fills me with joy and leaves no room for worry. On the contrary, there remains enormous respect for people who put maximum professionalism and their whole heart into their work."

Kristýna, Public Relations



What effect did the fulfilled wishes have on dreamers and their loved ones?

Approximately 10 weeks after the fulfilment of every wish, we send parents and older dreamers a questionnaire in which (among other things) we ask what effect the fulfilled wish had on the dreamer, siblings, or the whole family. Here are some of the answers:

.....
My daughter felt important that someone had come especially just for her to fulfil her wish. Every time we go by the river, she doesn't forget to say hello to the Golden Fish. :)
.....

The fulfilled wish had enormous effect on my son and on all of us. My son likes football much more, the wish brought back good memories of a wonderful experience, we appreciate everything very much.
.....

For us, this wish was a matter close to our heart. Not only did we welcome another member of the family -- a turtle, but we still remember meeting you and it had a great impact on us. We have been living for several years in a constant rush of hospitals, surgeries and constant fear and stress. And this fulfilled wish just proves to us that we have people around us who are with us ♥.
.....

Kája wished for skis, and the thought that he would be skiing a year after brain surgery brought tears to our eyes.
.....

Everything was TOP!





.....
The whole Golden Fish project is so amazing it brings tears to my eyes. Every parent would promise their sick child blue skies just to lift their spirits, help them think differently and have some vision for the future. And this is exactly what starts to happen with the first filling out of the form for the Golden Fish...the surprise that such a thing exists, then planning, a bit of impatience and also eagerness. And then the great joy when the Golden Fish fulfils its wish!
.....

Too bad the Goldfish does not know the spell for bringing back health. But it can bring joy and a smile. Therefore, I can only recommend your project.
.....

My daughter wants to study and has said several times how well she had been working with the computer. But those are just words, much more important is the feeling the child has when the wish is fulfilled. The feeling that there are people around them who care about them and who want to make them happy. And this feeling also heals.
.....

Carry tissues for parents, otherwise I have no reservations, not even a little bit.
.....

The nice thing about the project is that it thinks about the whole family, that it doesn't forget the children's siblings and directly finds out what "little thing" would please them too, I think that's also not completely obvious. The whole project is beautifully thought out down to the last detail.

.....
Riša was very happy with the gift and so were we. He likes to take pictures, so he uses the camera a lot, and he is looking forward to some big trip to put it to the test.
.....

Yes, the wish had an effect. Finally, something started happening with us. We finally started with the renovation, the realization of the garden house gave us a kick to jump into other changes, improving our house.
.....

I would recommend the project to every family with a seriously ill child who has a wish that is difficult or downright impossible for parents in their situation to fulfil. We saw that Rybka will do everything to make the child happy.
.....

What made my child happy was being able to make someone else happy. After that, when my daughter was left alone in the hospital and met the doctor for whom she made a wish, and they talked about it together, she called me from the hospital that he was so happy that she was moved.
.....

As Viktorka wants to become a doctor, Golden Fish opened another door for her to discover her dream profession and confirm that she is on the right path. It was a great experience for her, from which she currently draws a lot of energy. Thanks to this, she received a new impulse in her life, which is the most beautiful gift for us.
.....

When asked what we would change, I answer: NOTHING. Not to change anything and just keep doing what you're doing because you're doing it right. And what to improve? There is only one thing, to be able to slow down or completely stop time so that it does not pass so quickly during the meeting, but even for that, unfortunately, the Golden Fish has short fins.

.....
A wish come true was a perfect break from stress for us, and for Jára it was a perfect experience linked to Lego, which he loves, as well as time spent with his father, who had time to fully devote himself to him for 3 days.
.....

.....
And then when the photobook arrived, Róza refused to let it go, and everyone who wanted to look at it had to wash and dry their hands first :-). It is gorgeous!
.....

.....
The fulfilment of my wish certainly had an impact, I got to know a new country, a new beautiful and accessible city, which I will definitely visit again sometime. At the same time, the trip revived my love for both travel and airplanes.
.....

.....
Vítek was really very happy about your gift. The great joy of TV led him to other thoughts than just his illness. So far, he has been thrilled and we still often talk about Golden Fish at home when we turn on the TV.
.....

.....
The fulfilled wish had an amazing effect on our family. Zuzka can be outside on the "playground" and have fun with her sister there for half a day, which of course has a beneficial effect on the parents as well. We hope the winter won't be too long.
.....

.....
There are few foundations that provide children with not only what they absolutely need, but what they really want, what makes them extremely happy, and they have little during and immediately after treatment. At the same time, no one tells the child what it is appropriate to want – and that really big wishes come true.
.....

.....
Our son had waited two years for his wish because his health did not allow him to travel. He was choosing from two options – and it was not an easy decision. Therefore, in addition to anticipation and pleasure,

he also felt responsible for making the right choice. In the end, thanks to his wish coming true, he experienced a week he will never forget.
.....

.....
When the mother of another treated girl from the hospital recommended it to me, I honestly hesitated at first, I thought that Sára was small, she would just want a doll, and what a surprise I had in the end!
.....

.....
I was very surprised and excited that it is probably not such a publicly known organization. I personally do not like to be included in programs that are public. It is clear to me that most organizations depend on contributions from donors who would like to see feedback on where their financial donations are going. However, not every parent, including myself, is willing to share their child's story publicly as it can be quite a sensitive topic for the family. And that's exactly what caught my attention about Golden Fish. I liked that the emphasis was on how much joy the project would bring to the dreamer, even without the media visibility of the donor.
.....

.....
For Johanka, it was something that helped her through the difficult times she spent in the hospital, imagining her wishes when she was sad.
.....

.....
Our Ruda was excited about the bike. No one is allowed to hang around his bike, he takes care of it like never before.
.....

.....
For Nikolka, it was mainly a great diversion during treatment, which is long and monotonous. First, making a wish, then visiting Golden Fish, and finally a beautiful photobook, so there was always something to look forward to! The gift she chose was not out of our financial reach. However, with a magical fish like this, she felt that it was something special and for her. And I must say that the camera was definitely a good choice! She gives photos to her friends and makes a photo diary for herself.





.....

The procedure was understandable, the important thing is that you can withdraw at any time, because it is impossible to predict what condition the child will be in. You spoke directly to my son during the one-to-ones, which was perfect, and I enjoyed every minute of your discussion with my son.

.....

I think it's a great idea, everyone has a wish, and when someone's world suddenly collapses, it's definitely gratifying.

.....

I would never have thought that I could go to Paris as I have dreamt of.

.....

Martina finally has her own personal space, where she learns to keep order herself, and that is also important. She studies from home at the PC, and when she closes the door she has more peace, that is, if her new cat doesn't make her angry, this also had an effect on her wish being fulfilled. Martina was promised a cat when she got a new room.

.....

I was pleasantly surprised that something was working, even if it wasn't arranged by my mother. I was very happy to see Crete, I have been dreaming about it for a long time.

.....

Of course, it was wonderful for Pepina and for us. She liked it so much in Greece that she didn't even want to return home.

.....

Janča felt like an adult, something she doesn't know. It was great.

.....

Well, I'm just happy about it, everyone who was there was happy too.

.....
Words can't even describe it! The professor recently asked Adinka if she likes to travel and where would she like to go the most. Without any hesitation, she immediately answered, "the Maldives," that there is a wonderful, peaceful, and different life there. We talk about the Maldives very often; it was something so different and amazing and it turned out that we promised ourselves that we definitely have to go back there sometime...
.....

I am 100% sure that you will put a smile on the faces of those who contact you, just like our Jasmínka, for which I am incredibly grateful. It was an incredibly powerful experience for me when, upon your departure, she told you that you fulfilled her wish and made her happy.
.....

Our new family member is the materialization of a dream about a dog, which was created a little before Fila fell ill, but the dream dog accompanied her like a guardian angel during the entire treatment.
.....

Kubík wanted a big LEGO, which he was very happy with. While assembling, he forgot about his worries and focused fully and responsibly on the kit. He was very excited and of course we were with him because what is better than seeing your child happy?
.....

It was a great time for all of us, which we spent mainly together, outside the hospital and actually without fear of what would happen, how it would be. We had the feeling that everything was the same, that we could enjoy our vacation again, just like before Mireček's illness. I think that in times of illness, any semblance of normalcy is an asset.
.....

We only found out about the Golden Fish project when our daughter got sick, and we see it as a wonderful project. Some may say that material things or wish fulfilments are not important, that parents

should only focus on treating and protecting the child. But it is really very important that the child is comfortable and happy, that he is motivated to fight for his life and not to give up, because children experience a lot of pain during treatment.
.....

All communication seemed perfect to me, even though Covid interfered, and we had to postpone the wishes several times. I was very pleasantly surprised by the process. I am glad that there were several meetings when we could forget about Anička's illness and Anička became the centre of attention not only because of her condition.
.....

The effect of the wish on my son was great, because it motivated him a lot during the treatment, when he was not at his best and he was looking forward to his recovery, that he would then be able to jump on the desired "giant trampoline", it was such a driving engine for him in his difficult period.
.....

Yes, the wish had an effect. And not only for the sake of the child, but also for the sake of the parents. Suddenly I could take a step back and leave my daughter in someone else's hands.
.....

My daughter has a letter from the Golden Fish as a bookmark and wants to read it several times a week.
.....

Tom has a greater desire to exercise and work on himself so that he can enjoy the fulfilled wish properly and for as long as possible.
.....

I realised that there are still people in the world who help others and try to make their lives more pleasant in difficult times.

.....
I could go on for a very long time here, because there were so many experiences, perceptions, and feelings... But I want to express it with one sentence that the doctor told us when she saw the photos from Tropical, and which speaks for everything.... "It can be seen that Martas is enjoying life again..."
.....

Ever since Naty expressed her wish during the video call, we've been looking forward to seeing it come true. Because Naty wanted to meet her favourites, we knew that by doing so Golden Fish would fulfil a wish for us as parents, because we would probably never be able to fulfil such a wish for Naty.
.....

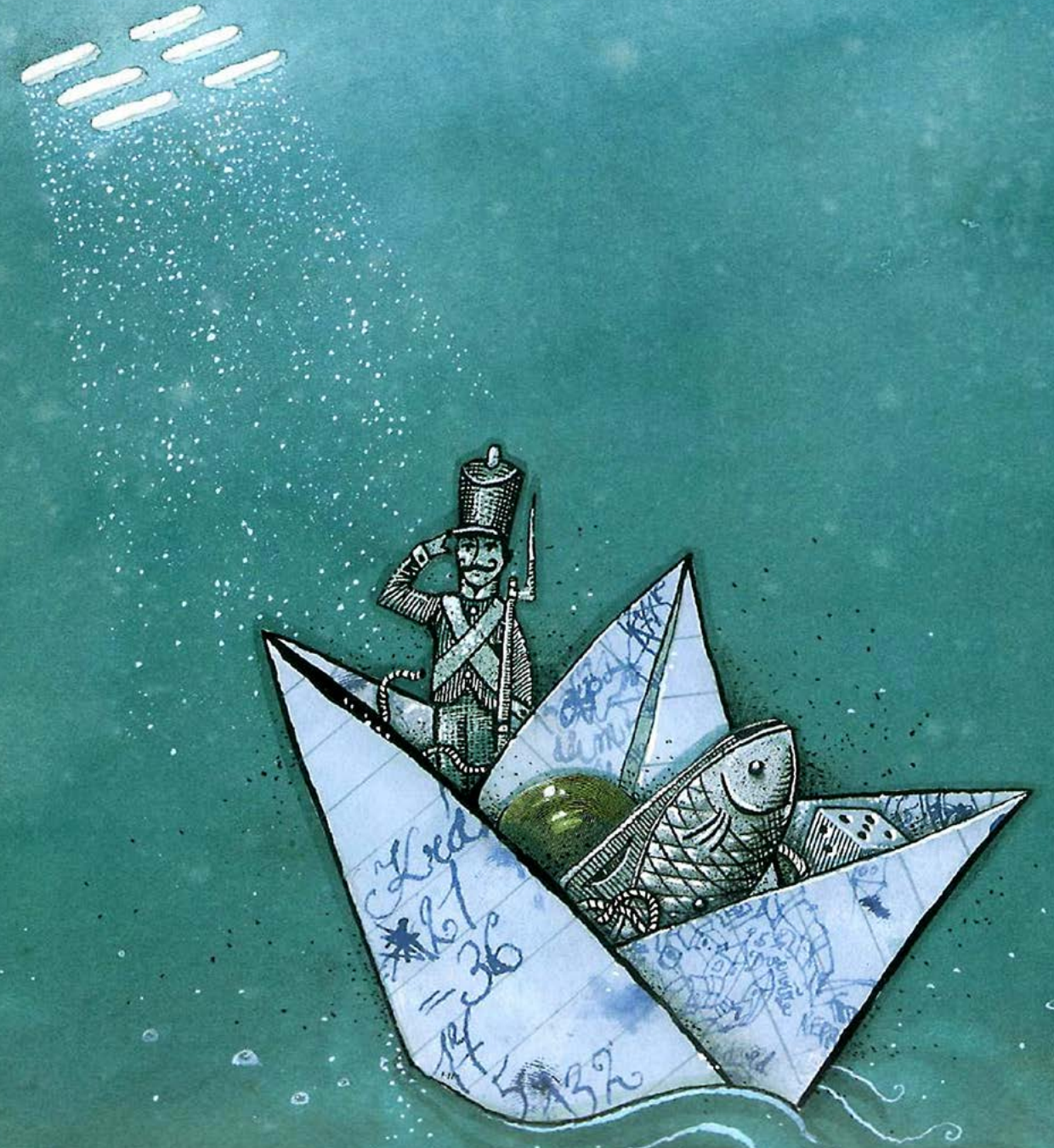
It probably cannot be fully described in words, but our enthusiasm for everything is huge and we feel great gratitude.
.....


In the difficult time we went through when we found out that we have a seriously ill child, one is glad for any hope, for the hope that it will get better again, that it doesn't end. The golden fish gave us this hope, it was great for Adámek, he had something to look forward to.
.....

Yes, the fulfilment of the wish made her happy. Olinka wished for a thing (the pool), so she can enjoy it again and again and have a lot of fun in it. Her brother also had the joy of fulfilling his wish. It makes us happy to see that they are laughing and playing together, and Olinka will hopefully forget a little what she had gone through.
.....

All contact with you, whether in person, by phone or via email, was always cordial, kind and humane, pleasant. Stay the way you are because you are great, and we value you and your work very much.
.....

* Names were intentionally changed to respect privacy.





*244 applications, 53% boys
and 47% girls, 57% children
with oncological diseases.*

*219 fulfilled wishes,
38% wishes linked to
experiences.*

Statistical Data 2022

In 2022, we received a total of 244 applications, of which 53% were from boys and 47% from girls. Approximately 12% of the registered children did not meet the necessary criteria, most often due to a less serious diagnosis.

The distribution of individual diagnoses was similar to previous years. The representation of the "other diseases" category increased slightly, from 27% to 32%. The increase was due to a higher number of cardiology diagnoses (they are classified in this category). Children with oncological diseases are still the most common group, but their representation has decreased from 62% to 57%. Children with organ failure accounted for 5% of all applicants and children with cystic fibrosis accounted for 4%. A decrease from 5% to 2% occurred in the group of muscular dystrophies and spinal muscular atrophies.

In terms of the age composition of registered children, the most represented groups are children aged 11–14 (30%) and 15–18 (27%). A decrease in the percentage of registered children occurred in the age category of 4–6 years (from 24% to 16%). This was mainly due to the increase in the lower age limit for applying to Golden Fish – from spring 2022, it starts at 5 years of age (instead of the previous 3 years of age).

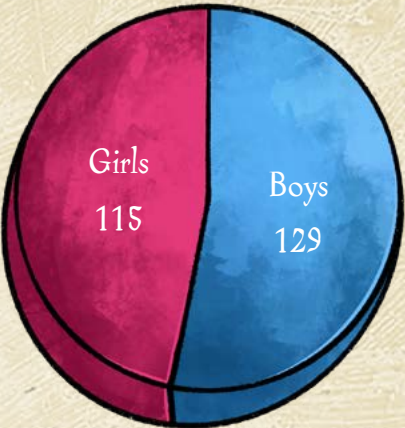
The Golden Fish granted 219 wishes this year, which means an average of more than four wishes a week. Compared to 2021, this meant an increase of 21%. Unfortunately, Golden Fish did not have time to fulfil the wishes of four of the registered children.

There was a slight change in the percentage representation of individual categories of expressed wishes. Experiential wishes have seen an increase compared to last year, from 28% in 2021 to 30% this year, and on the contrary, a decrease has been seen in the "I wish to have" wish category – from 64% (2021) to 61%.

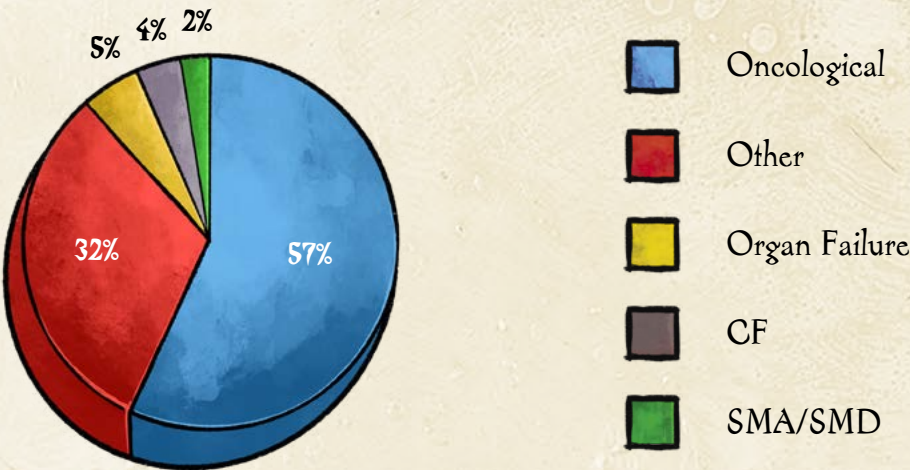
In 2022, we met with Dreamers and their families (on average) every 15 hours.
9% of these meetings took place online (last year it was 27%).

Every 36 hours we received one application and every 40 hours one big wish came true. Every 15 hours we met personally with the dreamers and their families.

Distribution of Dreamers by gender
(applications received in 2022)



Distribution of Dreamers by diagnosis
(applications received in 2022)

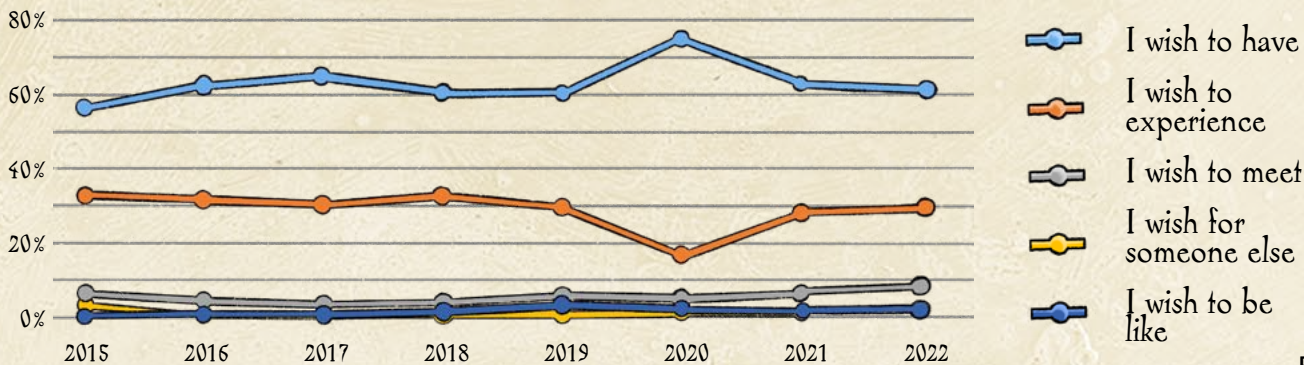


Number of expressed wishes 218

Distribution of categories of expressed wishes (wishes expressed in 2022)



Development of distribution of categories of expressed wishes (2015–2022)



Audit

The enclosed financial data represent only a selected sample of data from the organisation's financial statements. The complete financial statement is kept at the headquarters of the organisation and is published in the Collection of Documents of the Registry Court. On June 30, 2023, the audit company Deloitte Audit, s.r.o. issued an auditor's report with an unqualified opinion on the financial statements. We thank Deloitte Audit, s.r.o. for conducting the pro bono audit.



Financial Report

Ever since its founding in 2015, Golden Fish has been financed exclusively by its founders. In 2022, a fundamental change took place though, opening up to support from other entities and donors.

The organization received financial donations of CZK 20,000 from Ondřej Vlček. CZK, CZK 11,000 from Vlčkoví family foundation, CZK 48,400 from Deloitte Audit, s.r.o., and other donations from private individuals in the total amount of CZK 148,000.

Material donations were provided by: Alza.cz, a.s. – CZK 291,044.11 (electronics), AKRA broker, s.r.o. – CZK 31,749 (car rental), CEHA TRADING, spol. s.r.o. – CZK 34,500 (roofing for a children's garden house).

Significant factors affecting our operations in 2022 were: discounts provided by suppliers (a total of approx. CZK 700,000), services provided pro bono (legal services, graphics and translations), and the share of activities provided by volunteers also increased considerably. In total, 694 hours of time were dedicated.

The costs of 2022 reached a total of CZK 26,420,000.

A total of CZK 9,377,000 was transferred to the financial year of 2023.

In 2022, administrative costs reached 19.6% of total costs, which is an increase of 0.6 percent compared to 2021.

No remuneration was paid to members of the Board of Directors in 2022.



Recognition of people and organisations

Gratitude for the help and long-term support of the organizations as well as individuals:

We are grateful to Slaninová/Vokál Law Firm for their long-term and very significant support in the form of pro bono services. We would also like to thank Deloitte Audit, s. r. o. for the audit of the organization without financial reward. We are also sincerely grateful to companies Alza.cz, a.s. and travel agency FISCHER, a.s.

Adam David
Balcar Martin
Bárta Jan
Batal David
Bauerová Eliška
Bojčevová Nikola
Breitkopfová Lenka
Bureš Olda
Burešová Jana
Čech Pavel
Čepický Mirek
Dvořák Václav
Erben Dan
Ferentsovichova Olesia
Fiala Josef

Gajdošová Petra
Hanuš Pavel
Holna Věra Kateřina
Holubová Krajcová Lucie
Horáček Oldřich
Horešovský Jan
Horn David
Hušbauer Josef
Chromková Marie
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Jupová Martina
Karnet Adam
Kleinová Kokešová Gražina
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Kučerová Petra

Langrová Jana
Machálek Petr
Mrákava Vlastimil
Novotná Michaela
Novotná Romana
Pavelka Gustav
Perná Zuzana
Pešková Jana
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Pospíšil Jan
Pršalová Věra
Přebinda Pavel
Říha Martin
Slámová Ivona
Slaninová Martina

Stehlíková Olina
Stiebling Karel Andreas
Šemberová Holubová Jana
Šlehuber Martin
Turková Adéla
Vacek Vlastimil
Vančát Vojtěch
Vavruška Jakub
Viková Lenka
Vokál Ondřej
Zavadilová Jolana

AISIS z. ú.
Allianz pojišťovna, a.s.
APPAREL BOX, s.r.o.
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CeWe Color, a.s.
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DER Touristik CZ, a.s.
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SONNENTOR, s.r.o.
STUDIO UP!
Vinograf

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Chmelová, Barbora – volunteer

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Corrons "Fox Jay" Viktor – youtuber, traceur

(practitioner of parkour)

Czech men's basketball team Čuba Albert – herec, Tři tygři

Depp, Johnny – actor

Ferro, Robin – actor, Tři tygři

Forejt, Přemek – chef

Janeček, "Skailer" Richard – youtuber

Kovářová, "Terysa" Tereza – youtuber

Kozub, Štěpán – actor, Tři tygři

Kryštof – music band

Kuluris, Nikos Petros – saxofon player

Lollipopz – music band

MIRAI – music band

Polák, Vladimír – actor, Tři tygři

Povoroznyk, "Tary" Taras – youtuber, traceur

(practitioner of parkour)

Sapík, Jaroslav – chef

Slza – music band

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Vinograf

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MUDr. Hanáková, Petra – Clinic of pediatric neurology FN Brno

Mgr. Hložánková, Marcela – Clinic of pediatric neurology FN Motol

doc. MUDr. Klásková, Eva, Ph.D. – Pediatric cardiology of the Children's Clinic FN Olomouc

Bc. Kurtová Karin, DiS. – Department of Pediatric Neurology, Neurological Clinic FN Ostrava

MUDr. Kušniríková, Zuzana – Department of Pediatric Neurology, Neurological Clinic FN Ostrava

Mgr. Kuzníková Iva, Ph.D. – Centrum provázení FN Ostrava

Mgr. Medková, Pavla – Pediatric hematology and hemato-oncology of the Children's Clinic FN Olomouc

Mgr. Muroňová, Alžběta – Children's Oncology Clinic FN Brno

Mgr. Řezníčková, Alice – Children's cardio center FN Motol

Mgr. Srbová, Jana – Hemato-oncology Department of the Children's Clinic FN Plzeň

MUDr. Štěrbová, Katalin – Clinic of pediatric neurology FN Motol

MUDr. Timr, Pavel – Department of Pediatric Hemato-oncology Hospital České Budějovice

Mgr. Trtílková, Jana – Children's Oncology Clinic FN Brno



As well as our colleagues from foreign organisations helping to make children's wishes come true:

Cook Jenny – Make-a-Wish International

Cuadrado Cristina – Fundación Pequeño Deseo

Gonnot Josiane – Asociacion Rêves

Magor-Gäbi Kristiina – Minu Unistuste Päev

Patzauer Éva – Csodalámpa Alapítvány

Patzauer Gábor – Csodalámpa Alapítvány

Pozo Cristina – Fundación Pequeño Deseo

Weag Lida – wünschdirwas e.V.



Thank you all

"A thousand thanks"... offers to be written especially in this jubilee annual report.

We don't want to stop there. We thank you all together, but also to each one of you individually and especially for the unique support you provided and therefore helped create great things together with Golden Fish.

Mr. and Mrs. Vlček, your generosity and vision are the inspiration and living water thanks to which Golden Fish has been swimming for so many years. Thank you!

To all the donors who contributed financially, materially, with their service and time, we thank you for a solid and reliable foundation for the fulfilment of children's dreams.

Methodical, mentoring and expert support is extremely important for the safe sailing of Golden Fish. We greatly value the long-term, very useful relationships with the Board of Directors and the auditor. Thank you, Irena Zavadová, Ivana Plechatá and Martina Břeňová, for your contribution to the growth of Golden Fish.

Gražina Kokešová Kleinová, who was at the beginning and still willingly and eruditely helps educate the team and develop the wish fulfilment process for the maximum benefit of the dreamers, has a very special role in Golden Fish's story. Gražina, thank you!

Doctors, nurses, and all of you who care for seriously ill children in hospitals, thank you for your trust and for bringing us on board. Thank you for your time and energy that you devote to working together to fulfil your wishes.

We also thank all of you, our lovely supervisors, coaches, lecturers, and consultants. With you, our sailing is more joyful, safer, and perhaps even faster.

The most important thing is the heart of Golden Fish, its team. These are people who get up in the morning and go for the adventure of talking to dreamers and making their wishes come true. They often encounter strong experiences, they look for ways to make the impossible happen. They invest a lot of energy, while still making sure that they work professionally in the role that Golden Fish has assigned them. They are empathetic, interested in the fate of children, and at the same time they understand their mission as part of the whole care mosaic. They support each other, cooperate within the team and with colleagues in other organizations and make a good name for their Golden Fish.

Almost three dozen employees worked to fulfil a thousand wishes. Thank you to those of you who came, did your part, and left to perhaps pursue your own dream. We thank all of you who have worked in Golden Fish over many years -- for your determination and great personal commitment. And yes, sometimes bravery. Thank you also to those of you who have only been in Golden Fish for a short time. We look forward to all the time spent together.

Karin Pospíšilová



Epilogue


The past year in Golden Fish was once again full of action and a fast pace. It was great to see how long-postponed foreign trips (mainly due to the Covid situation or demanding treatment) could finally be realised or at least actually thought through. There were also planned and unplanned changes, development, expansion of the team, new situations and challenges...

Every day I realise that our contacts with dreamers and their families are not one-sided. At first glance, Golden Fish appears to be in the role of a pure giver, while the dreamers are the receivers. However, this is not the case. I see our relations as balanced. We get a lot from dreamers. I appreciate their honesty and openness during meetings, their desire to dream and share their inner feelings and wishes with us. Every encounter with a dreamer is unique and rewarding. Dreamers are a huge inspiration for us. With your courage (to dream) and patience, determination, imagination...

To the next year, I wish Golden Fish to continue to be able to look at dreamers openly and perceptively. Good sailing and (of course) I hope that many wishes of our dreamers and us all come true. Golden Fish, thank you that I can be a part of you!

Zuzana Vaculíková





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