A 501 (c) 3 organization – all donations are tax deductible.
WISHES 4 ME FOUNDATION

PAST
Wishes 4 Me started with a vision, a dream, a mother’s love, and God’s never-ending love and support!

PRESENT
1st home for disable adults

How do we help adults with disabilities lead more independent lives? We research whatever is necessary, ask for help through prayer, and watch God’s miracles come to life for many disabled adults in need!

FUTURE
A community where disabled adults can live life independently, to their fullest potential!

2nd home for disable adults

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Inspiration behind the Beginning of the Wishes 4 Me Foundation:

Lynn Robinette founded the Wishes 4 Me Foundation, Inc, a non-profit organization, April 2002. Her motivation behind creating this organization originated close to home. Lynn's journey began in September of 1996, when both of her children were diagnosed with Friedreich's Ataxia, progressive deterioration of the coordination of the muscles. There was and still is no cure. There was and still is no treatment for the disease. Lynn was told that she could only watch her children decline. In 1996, Doctors told Lynn and her children, Robin and Stephen, that they would need rod fused to their spine within 24 months to stabilize the curvature in their spine.

It was apparent that Lynn had to find other options. Over 18 years later, the procedure has not been performed. In 2001, the children's neurologist asked Lynn what had been done to her children. When Lynn inquired as to what he was referring to, he stated that the children’s spine was straighter than most people. Lynn took great joy in telling the doctor, that it was God's will. She further stated, “Every night before I go to bed and while the children sleep, I sit in the hallway between their bedrooms and pray. I pray asking God for healing of their spines. You told me that it was impossible to correct their spine without the rods as well did other doctors. I call it a miracle. God has a different plan for my family.”

Through the needs of Lynn’s Family, challenges in finding resources for her children and the question of how would she take care of her children as they declined, became the birth of the Wishes 4 Me Foundation.

Lynn’s Belief:
God give us no more than we can bear.

Lynn’s Conclusion:
God thinks so highly of my family and I to be given so much. We are to embrace God’s will for us and be a light unto others. Please join me in making Lawrenceville, Gwinnet County and Georgia a better place for the disabled.

Lynn’s Acknowledgements:
God has given us so much to oversee. I pray that we continue to use the Lord's resources in a way which is pleasing to him so that our ministry will continue to benefit many others with disabilities with a desire to be active in the community.
For all of y’all that do not know me, my name is Robin Cheatwood and Lynn Robinette is my mother. My mother had a dream. Just like Martin Luther King JR my mom’s dream was to see a world where all people have an equal opportunity to live in a world with equality. Think about it. Most people on Earth can walk and move about on their own willpower. If two people get into an argument it is easy for one person if they get mad at the other to just walk away and head up a hill. But what if they had to roll away up that hill? Most people don’t even realize how easy they have it. Well, my mom had a dream, to make day to day life easier on individuals with physical challenges; to remove barriers to living on their own. She wants people with physical challenges to be treated equal to everyone else.

I am now 22 years old. When I was first diagnosed with the disability I carry I was 12 years old. The doctor asked my mom if she wanted to give me up for adoption. (My mom will probably deny that, but I remember because I was in the room.) Instead of giving me away, my mom instead never gave up on me. She is and was always there for me. Although, I am wondering why she is giving me away now. I guess she realizes that now it is time to launch me on my own. Thank you Mom for believing in me, for not giving me away until the right time, and for teaching me how to dream.

My Mom wants the best for me. She wanted me to be around other people because she knows that I love to be around people. I thrive on being around others: living with others, growing with others and learning from others. This is not an option, I did not chose to thrive from others existence; it just my way of life. I like to make people smile and laugh; I like to comfort people, as they need it, mainly I like people! Mom knew that I would need a safe environment (those that know me might tell you the only safe environment for me is a padded room). I was in the bathroom at home once (the bathroom is not handicapped accessible) and I was standing up, pulling my pants up and I fell on the floor. I hand nothing to grab onto and my ft kept slipping. Four hours later I finally made it; I got back in my chair. Then, when I told mom, she yelled at me for not having a phone in my wheelchair that I could have grabbed and called someone to help me. My mom also wanted to make my life easier. She thought, “I bet there are more people that I could help while I help my daughter.” My brother also has a disability. Being a single mother of two is hard enough, both of the children having disabilities is even harder. My mom is always concerned about our safety.
I would like to say thank you to the many people who have helped this dream come true. My mother, who had this dream; all the way down to the people who help keep this dream in the future. Even the smallest things people can do to help will mean the world to me and others who have it just a bit tougher. My good friend, Amber, told me that she feels bad because she has not been able to help at the house because of her work. We have not even been able to see one another lately. Yet, we went out this past Wednesday, I hope she knows that meant so much to me. We went shopping for stuff for this house. I am just like any young people moving into their own space and place. I want to be away from my mom. Most young people cannot wait to turn 18. I knew I would be living at home with mom after I turned 18. I just did not know that I would ever be able to live away from mom. This is every young persons dream. It just took a while for this dream to come true for me. Another friend, Ammie, has come a few times to help modify this house. I would like to thank all of you who have come out and made this possible. From the bottom of my heart:

THANK YOU so much!
"I share your pride today as a piece of your dream for a better life for persons with disabilities becomes a reality – a facility with a home setting that will inevitably improve the residents’ quality of life."
Governor Sonny Perdue - September 2006

"Living in our homes, gives us the opportunity to live independently, be safe and remain active in the community." Stephen Cheatwood - Resident

"Wishes 4 Me Foundation is a fabulous organization! Lynn Robinette (the founder) truly cares about the wellbeing of each person that comes in contact with the homes. We were concerned that our son would have to live with us the rest of his life. Because Lynn has a unique way of raising funds, using additional resources, our son is now able to benefit from living in the community. What a fabulous opportunity for him to be able to live on his own and feel successful!" --Christy & Jeff Hinson

"The Wishes For Me Foundation is giving life to those whose physical limitations create obstacles for them. The foundation is offering more than maintenance for the young men; they are offering physical, emotional, and for some who wish, even spiritual wholeness. I have watched these men over several years grow, learn, accept new challenges, and not “settle” for less in any way! They are active, excited and engaged in life on every level thanks to the hard work, devotion, and faithful support of the caregivers funded by the foundation. I love supporting this foundation with my time, skills, and finances because Wishes For Me is making wishes come true!"

Stephanie Wolfe, Executive Director
770-846-3515
EPIC – A Family Life Center
Where Families Find Fun All Year Long!
www.epicfamilylifecenter.com & www.myepicfaith.org

I have been truly blessed by the relationships developed through my involvement with the Wishes 4 Me Foundation. God has provided all the things the foundation needed at the right time. Our residents have touched my life and have been such an inspiration. It is such a joy to see the residents overcoming their daily challenges and staying active in the community. I continue to pray for the resources to expand our housing project which will allow us to assist more individuals with disabilities who are asking for our help. Lynn Robinette - Founder

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**ENDORSEMENTS**

I’ve have several friends who have young children with major disabilities. These children are such blessings but rely on their parents for all of their basic daily care. I am sure that the thought of who will take care of them when they get older weighs heavy on their minds. Then I met an amazing lady named Lynn who already has the solution and a vision for the future to make sure many more families can have the security that their children will be taken care of when they grow up.

Wishes 4 Me Foundation, the homes they have built and the wonderful men they are currently taking care of have made a big impact on my life. I have seen that love comes from the most unusual places, white houses, wheel chairs and karaoke machines. Come, visit and you will catch the excitement and love of Wishes 4 Me Foundation. **Tami Carless** - Board Member

“Working with the resident’s of the Wishes 4 Me Foundation has changed my life. Thank you.” **Brian Ward** - Caregiver

I’ve never been away from my family, but the people here made me feel like this was my true home. Wishes 4 Me helped me do a complete 180 with my attitude. I really do enjoy living here, I feel more independent as if I have more of a say so in my life. I socialize way more, meeting new friends with the same disability as me.  **-- Garrett Plair** - Resident

Wishes for me welcomed me with open arms, and made me feel safe. The caregivers here helped me a lot, but also making me feel independent. They all made sure that they understood my condition and what I was going through. They made sure that my medication was given to me properly, and I went to all of my doctors appointments on time. I used to be very active and working, but due to my condition I had to stop. Living here lets me be active again and do the things I enjoy most like yard work and maintaining my garden. **Jerry Sorohan** - Resident

Wishes 4 Me Foundation gives opportunities to individuals who otherwise would be overlooked. It houses people with a wide range of conditions and gives them purpose in the community. It is clear that this foundation is involved in the bettering of people’s lives through giving them a strong sense of self worth, as well as knowing the people who are here to assist them truly care and have their best interest at heart. **Brianna Williams** - Caregiver

I have been involved with the Wishes 4 Me Foundation for the better part of seven years; from volunteering, to caregiving. It is a true blessing to be an active witness to the remarkable transitions in the residents’ lives--they have become an active part of the community, while making progress in their own lives--in ways they never knew possible. I can easily say that working with the foundation has changed my life for the better.  **- - Heather Wise** - Caregiver

I love my home. **-- Tyson Sardis** - Resident
My son, Rob lives in a Wishes 4 Me home in Lawrenceville, and what a blessing it has been for us! It has provided an environment which encourages Rob to be as independent as possible and responsible for his own care, using programs that enable him to have caregivers where there is a need. There is such a great need for more residences like the one Rob shares with other young men, and we hope that other families will be able to realize the possibilities we’ve found with Wishes 4 Me.

-- Ann Headstream

Wishes 4 Me answered many years of prayers for our son. Staying at home was not longer an option and a nursing home was out of the question. Garrett’s level of required care is at a nursing home level. Garrett has been transformed from a depressed, bitter young man of 33 with no life and no hope into a happy, well adjusted young man with a full of independence and purpose. We know he is being well cared for an all his needs are met and we no longer worry about him. God has used Lynn Robinette and all the staff of Wishes 4 Me to bring hope and life to many young people who would otherwise have none. Thank you for clanging our son’s life and our entire family.

-- Melvin & Carolyn Plair - Garrett’s Parents

I have been working with the Wishes 4 Me Foundation since December of 2010. My job is such a blessing. I find helping these great residents live a productive life is the most rewarding thing I have ever done. I have seen so many of these people grow and prosper in so many ways. This foundation is a blessing to the residents, their families and all of us who work each day to help them live as normal of lives as possible.

-- Tonya Ward - Caregiver

I have Mytonic Muscular Dystrophy. For me the 5 years I have spent as a resident at Wishes 4 Me Foundation I have been given the opportunity to help and be helped. I volunteer regularly with one of my fellow residents and we have been able to keep each other accountable as we live more independently. Living here has really helped me and my family tremendously.

-- Robert Headstream - Resident

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PAST AND PRESENT RESIDENTS

Past and present residents

Hope – our 4 legged resident
PAST AND PRESENT RESIDENTS

Garrett and friends

Kim

Jeremy

Jerry in his garden

Our first resident, Robin Cheatwood. Your legacy still lives with us every day. 1984 - 2008

Misty

Jenny

Kara

Emma
The Wishes 4 Me Foundation’s first recipient was Brianna and her family. Brianna was diagnosed with cancer. Her single mom struggled with paying bills because she was at the hospital a lot with her daughter which prevented the mom from going to work. The foundation raised money to help pay some of their bills so that they did not become homeless in the process.

During the creation of the Wishes 4 Me Foundation, we knew there was a need to share knowledge of resources available to the disabled in Georgia. We knew many families needed financial support to provide for their disabled family member. Much needed medical equipment to assist with the care of the disabled and their caregivers is not always covered by insurance, Medicare or Medicaid.

In 2005, we started our annual Walk & Roll for Independence. This event represents the ability for disabled adult to live as independent as they can in the community. Parents and other family members of our residents have built a relationship with the foundation and they fully trust the care provided. The families are seeing their disabled family member being active in the community and most of them are experiencing things for the first time in their life. Our residents are such a blessing. Everyone, who works with the residents feel honored to be a part of their successes. Two of our residents were in the process of being moved into a nursing home prior to be finding out about the Wishes 4 Me Foundation.

In 2006, the foundation purchased their first home for disabled adults. The home was modified to meet the needs of disabled adults. The foundation spared no cost in making the home adaptable to the residents. The home exceeds the ADA building code. A few hand rails does not create a safe setting for the disabled. We analyze the disability of each individual which becomes a resident and make the needed modifications. Our goal is to provide a safe environment for our residents and the caregivers assisting our residents. We try our best to improve the quality of life for each resident. Most of resident were shut-ins before moving into our homes.

With the support of friends and family and the Will of God, the Wishes 4 Me Foundation is still growing. God has made sure that the right people have been placed in our path at the right time. As a Christian based foundation, we seek God’s plan for us instead of any one individual’s agenda.

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In October 2007, the Wishes 4 Me Foundation purchased their second home for disable adult. The 2nd home is on the same street as the 1st Home. Our residents on a weekly basis are involved in volunteering at several different locations, attending church even though it is not required, eating out with friends and/or family, having group movie times, board game events, bowling, sports parties, and more. Some of the special events include but not limited to going to: UGA games, Atlanta Braves games, Gwinnett Braves, Noah’s Ark, Georgia Aquarium, Movie Theatre, Fox Theatre, Cruise Vacations, Florida Vacations, Karaoke at Dakota’s, Fall Festivals, Concerts, Swimming Parties, Stone Mountain and dances. Without the structure of the Wishes 4 Me Foundation homes, most of our current residents would be living a life in front of a TV and would not be having much joy in their life due to the limitations of their environment. Currently, The White House is in the process of having 3 rooms and an additional bathroom added to it. There is a huge need for our

The residents seek to do the most they can and not allow their disability prevent them from having an enjoyable life. We believe that God has given us a responsibility to embrace the life which has been given to us, to make the most of it in all ways. The residents are a blessing to all they come in contact with.

We have a resident who could not read when he moved into our home. His caregivers have been working with him so that he can read which he really enjoys to do. When this man was in grade school, he was labeled as having a learning disability instead of being autistic. He is extremely smart and has the ability to learn. He had a difficult time communicating with people and did not like to be around a large number of people. Today, he has been on a cruise. He loves to go to Golden Coral. He bowls with the Special Olympics and is quite good. He has overcome many obstacles which many people did not think he was capable of.

We have another resident whose parents can no longer oversee his care. He was about to be placed in a nursing home. Then the family had been referred to the contact Lynn Robinette. The aging parents’ health prevent them from assisting their son with his daily living activities. This young man is such a joy to be around. He keeps everyone laughing.

Our residents have limited financial resources because they are not able to retain full time employment due to their disabilities. Some of our residents could use a friend to take them out to eat on occasions, too a movie or periodically give them a gift card to Wal-Mart so that they can purchase personal supplies which they need. To sponsor a resident, you can contact Lynn Robinette at Lynn.Robinette@wishes4me.org.

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WISHES 4 ME - FUTURE

The Wishes 4 Me Foundation originated with a wish from a young disabled lady to live in a community where her disability would not set her apart from others. She did not want to be an outcast. She wanted to be accepted for who she was not by her abilities or lack thereof. This young lady always had a smile on her face. She was an inspiration to so many people. Her wish did come true before her passing. As part of her dream she wanted to see others benefit from a wish which she had. After several years, the Wishes 4 Me Foundation is now planning to expand the wish which Robin once had. We have begun the process of building an addition to our “White House.” During the construction phase, the Foundation will begin developing the plans to build an addition to Steve’s Home as well as seeking other homes to purchase in the same area of the existing homes. The vision of the foundation is to have more homes for young adults who have some form of disability which has set them apart from the majority of the public. Our residents also learn about their housemates’ disabilities so that they learn to assist each other.

As we expand our housing community, we will be seeking ways to educate the community on disabilities. We will continue to work with other organizations to help assist our resident to give back to the community. We believe that God has given everyone gifts. Our goals include supporting our residents to use the gifts which have been given and to be a blessing by using their gifts.

We will continue to seek public support, financial donations, financial grants, and much more to assist the disabled community with the following and not limited to the following: to bring about awareness, provide safe – adaptable living environments, receive the best possible care for our residents’ medical needs, assist our residents with their spiritual needs and continue to grow as a mature adult.

When addressing the needs of the disabled community, there are many variations of limitations. When creating a safe adaptable community, all aspects of limitations and needs will be planned for each. There will be no generic adaptive home or apartment. With the limited income of the disabled, it will be extremely important and required for the foundation to seek various funding vehicles to support the community to allow the residents to be financially able to afford the ability to live as an independent US citizen.

The main reasons for individuals under the age of 55 who reside in a nursing home or state ran institution are as follows:

Lack of Financial Support
Able body responsible caregivers
Knowledge to Navigate through the red tape

Safe adaptable home all of their needs
Lack of preplanning with family members
Lack of ability to self-advocate
And more…..
10th Annual Walk & Roll for Independence 2015

Date: April 25, 2015
Location: Pleasant Hill Road, Duluth, GA
Time: 10 am - 12:30 pm

Raise money to benefit disabled individuals so they can safely live independently in the community...
SPONSOR A RESIDENT

There are no specific requirements to be a sponsor.

Suggestions in sponsoring a Resident:

• Take him/her out to eat
• Take him/her to a movie
• Take him/her shopping
• Take him/her to a concert
• Find something to do that you have in common
• Come over to visit him/her
• Attend socials with your new friend
• Bring your new friend little special treats (gift cards, special occasion cards)
• Call periodically
• Financial Support
• Have your new friends attend your family functions
• Assist with daily living tasks
• Host a cookout at the resident’s home
• Take him/her to the zoo, aquarium, etc...
• Be involved in Special Events / Holidays: birthday, Christmas, Thanksgiving, Easter, Valentines, etc...

Facts:

• Most of our residents have little family interaction.
• Most of our residents were shut-ins prior to moving into our home
• Some of our residents would be in a nursing home if they did not live in our home(s).
• Most of our residents receive less than $800 per month in income.
• Most of our residents receive no financial assistances from their family.
• All of our residents require additional financial resources to live the quality of life we would want for our family members.
• $1 per day would provide a resident with their monthly supply of toiletries which they are responsible for.

Sponsoring a resident is about showing love. There are no specific requirements or regular required tasks in being a sponsor.

Email: Admin@wishes4me.org
or
Call: Lynn at 770-982-0275
to sign up to Sponsor a resident.

Why not sign up to day to be a blessing to someone less fortunate than you? It is as simple as 1 - Contact Lynn, 2 – Go visit your new Friends and 3 – Let God lead your way through a relationship with Your New Friend...
GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- **Gwinnett County Block Grant through Gwinnett County Community Development Program** - 2010 Wheelchair Accessible Van – Volkswagen Rotan

- **The Lofton Family** – 2000 Wheelchair Accessible Van – Dodge Caravan

- **State of Georgia – Medicaid Waiver programs** – Caregiver Wages – 2014 Approximately $300,000 / 2015 – estimated to be approximately $450,000

- **Gwinnett County Great Days of Service** – recipient of volunteers for several years on various repairs and lawn maintenance

- **McKendree United Methodist Church** - recipient of volunteers for several years on various repairs and lawn maintenance

- **LAP – Lawrenceville United Methodist Church** - recipient of volunteers for several years on various repairs and lawn maintenance

- **Sugarloaf United Methodist Church** - recipient of volunteers for several years on various repairs and lawn maintenance

- **Home Depot** - recipient of volunteers for several years on various repairs and lawn maintenance

- **Killian Baptist Church** – Youth Group volunteers Sodded the front yard of Steve’s Home.

- **Gwinnett County Transitional Fair** – Invited every year to present our resources to Gwinnett County Families of disabled children approaching adulthood

- **Kroger Community Rewards** – Kroger Plus rewards support

- **Wells Fargo** – Community Support Award

We have a proven track record to improve the quality of life for the disabled. Join us by supporting our ministry.

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HOW CAN YOU HELP US HELP OTHERS?

### Easy to get involved:
- Sponsor a Resident
- Financial Donations
- Participate in our Annual Walk & Roll for Independence
- Become a sponsor of the Annual Walk & Roll for Independence
- Donate your empty printer cartridges and old cell phones to the foundation
- Assist with supplying the houses with food or household products
- Volunteer by assisting with Lawn Maintenance
- Volunteer by assisting with Repairs
- Spread the word our the Wishes 4 Me Foundation Mission
- Visit the residents
- Host a monthly meal with the residents
- Assist us in locating Corporate Sponsors
- **Go To:** [www.GoodSearch.com](http://www.GoodSearch.com) and choose Wishes 4 Me Foundation as your charity to support

If you would like to get involved, please, do not wait. Make contact with **Lynn** today.

**Email:** Admin@wishes4me.org  
**Call:** Lynn at 770-982-0275

### Specific Supplies / Food used in our homes:
- Tide – HE (high efficiency) Original with Bleach
- Coke – 16 oz bottles
- Coke Zero, Diet Coke – Cans or 16 oz plastic bottles
- Joy liquid soap
- Cascade Dishwasher pods
- Dove Liquid bath soap – unscented
- Paper Towels
- Napkins
- Zip Lock bags – all sizes
- Large Kitchen Garbage Bags
- New Cookware
- New Cooking utensils
- Campbell’s Tomato Soup
- Campbell’s Cream of Mushroom
- Green Beans
- Corn
- Bounce Fabric softener sheets – Unscented
- Windex
- Scrubbing Bubbles – Bathroom Cleaner
- Scotts Toilet Paper – safe for Septic Tanks label
- New Dish Towels
- Gift Cards – Home Depot, Wal-Mart, AMC Theatres, any Restaurant

If you would like to get involved, please, do not wait. Make contact with **Lynn** today.

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