

“We're here!" Ryder's Trip to Florida

The Montana Hope Project granted Ryder's wish to meet Mickey Mouse and stay in the Give Kids The World Village in Kissimmee, Florida. Ryder's mom says the respite from doctors, hospitals, therapy sessions and from the anxiety of caring for a child with congenital heart disease was priceless and restored the family's hope for healthier, happier days to come.

[Give Kids The World Village](#) is an 89-acre, whimsical nonprofit resort, that provides week-long, cost-free wish vacations to critically ill children and their families from around the world who want to visit Central Florida. Families that visit Give Kids The World must be referred by one of more than 250 wish-granting organizations or foundations, such as [Make-A-Wish Foundation](#).



A stay at the Village is much more than a weeklong vacation; it's a chance for these families to laugh together, play together, and create unforgettable memories away from hospital stays and medical treatments.

“From the amazing accommodations at the beautiful Give Kids the World Village to the red carpet treatment at the theme parks,” Ryder's mom says everyone went above and beyond to make her wish extraordinary for their family. “We spent the week enjoying the magic of Disney World, Universal Studios, SeaWorld, and Cocoa Beach. It was a delightful whirlwind of adventure - favorite characters, thrilling rides, animal encounters, exciting shows, and all the ice cream we could eat!” Ryder would exclaim, “We're here! We're here!” with the biggest grin every time they walked through the Village.

Last year, the Village closed to wish families like Ryder's due to the global pandemic, delaying more than 6,000 wishes. Despite the closure, the Village created a unique opportunity last December for visitors and donors to experience – Night of a Million Lights. Night of a Million Lights was designed to raise funds to ensure that the wishes of critically ill children could return bigger and better than ever before once the time was right to reopen. Last year, USA Today named Night of a Million Lights the “Number One Thing To Do in December in Orlando.”

It was such a huge success that the Village has decided to do it again this year and the [Workers' Compensation Institute](#) is playing it's part in bringing it back. WCI has organized a Gala event “Winter Wonderland” to be held December 11, 2021 in conjunction with GKTW's second annual Night of a Million Lights. For more information about the WCI-GKTW collaboration, [click here](#).

WCI & GKTW's 2021 Winter Wonderland Experience



Bring friends and family along to join us for a magical holiday experience Saturday, December 11. Last year, USA Today named GKTW's Night of a Million Lights the “Number One Thing To Do in December in Orlando!”