

Make-A-Wish Foundation®  
of the Mid-Atlantic, Inc.  
10920 Connecticut Avenue, Suite 1600  
Kensington, MD 20895-1600  
301-962-WISH  
FAX: 301-962-6900  
www.midatlantic.wish.org  
presidentceo@midatlantic.wish.org



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:**

Mary DuPre  
Phone: 301.962.9474  
E-mail: mdupre@midatlantic.wish.org

**THE MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION OF THE MID-ATLANTIC  
WELCOMES THREE NEW BOARD MEMBERS**

KENSINGTON, Md., Mar. 19, 2008...The Make-A-Wish Foundation® of the Mid-Atlantic, Inc., a nonprofit organization that fulfills the wishes of local children fighting life-threatening medical conditions, recently welcomed three new member to its Board of Directors: Country Music Artist Laura Bryna; Christopher Chatman of Acumen Solutions®, Inc. and Brian Kagen of Black & Decker Corporation.

“We’re excited to welcome our three newest board members and see our community of support grow,” said Board of Directors Chair Nancy Kfoury. “Laura, Chris and Brian are passionate about our mission and are already actively involved in supporting the Foundation. Their eagerness to help with events and support our programs is very touching, and shows the level of commitment they have to the children we serve.”

A native of Mount Airy, Md., Laura Bryna was introduced to the Make-A-Wish Foundation when her brother suffered a brain aneurism that left him in a coma for six months at the age of 13. Now a longtime supporter of the Make-A-Wish Foundation®, Bryna has stuffed envelopes, taken artists on visits to meet wish kids, granted wishes and volunteered in any way that she could to help. Now residing in Nashville, her passion for the Foundation continues. Her debut CD, *Trying to Be Me*, released in 2007 features a song she co-wrote titled “Make A Wish.”

An experienced business and technology executive, Chris Chatman brings a vibrant, professional skill set to the Foundation. His rich history of working in the local high tech

**Make-A-Wish Foundation of the Mid-Atlantic Expands Board, Mar. 19, 2008...Add One**

industry, specifically telecommunications, enables him to lend his practical, commercial knowledge to enhance the Foundation's events and provide improved donor support. Mr. Chatman currently serves as a managing director with Acumen Solutions, Inc. where he and his company have supported the Make-A-Wish Foundation since 2000.

As a past Wish Grantor and triathlon participant, Brian Kagen is dedicated to the mission of the Foundation and understands the magic behind wishes firsthand. A native of Baltimore and active in the business and local communities, he looks forward to helping the Foundation further its outreach efforts to both potential supporters and wish children. Prior to joining Black and Decker Corporation where he is currently vice president of consumer tools & accessories, Kagen spent three years at a nonprofit organization where he gained an appreciation of fundraising, special events, and volunteer recruitment work. He intends to put some of those skills to use once more on behalf of the Foundation.

"We are so pleased to grow our board with three new members who represent diverse regions of our Chapter's territory," said President & CEO Catherine C. Martens. "Their combined experience, skills and local influence will greatly benefit the Foundation in a variety of ways."

The Make-A-Wish Foundation of the Mid-Atlantic, Inc. is a nonprofit organization that fulfills the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. Founded in 1983, the Foundation has fulfilled the wishes of more than 5,500 children in Maryland, the District of Columbia, Delaware and Northern Virginia. For additional information, please visit [www.midatlantic.wish.org](http://www.midatlantic.wish.org).