



Maggie Varney Biography

Maggie Varney is a licensed cosmetologist who has been in the beauty industry for over 50 years and has been a successful business owner and entrepreneur for over 35 years. Maggie runs two establishments; **Maggie's Wigs 4 Kids of Michigan**, a nonprofit, and **Go Green**, a socially responsible and eco-friendly full-service salon.

As a Michigan certified technician of the **Creating a Total Image** program and a facilitator for the **American Cancer Society's Look Good, Feel Better** program, Maggie volunteers her time and talent to teach cancer patients how to deal with the appearance-related side effects of chemotherapy & radiation.

Maggie noticed a need to help young people and families in their struggle with health challenges causing hair loss. Utilizing her passion and expertise in the beauty industry, along with her business development experience, Maggie founded **Maggie's Wigs 4 Kids of Michigan** in October 2003. **Maggie's Wigs 4 Kids of Michigan** provides wigs & support services at no charge to Michigan children experiencing hair loss as a result of illness and treatment.

In 2020, the organization opened a **NEW Wellness Center** to further assist the children of Michigan. The nonprofit offers therapy, nutrition and self-empowerment through self-image activities. Field trips and counseling on an individual, group and family basis are also provided at no charge in addition to an Enchanted Tea Room, massage, nail care, skin care, nutrition, fitness and raised therapy garden. The organization is also involved in a VR 4 Kids Program Pilot as of 2023! Maggie has worked with state legislators to recognize the need for a child to have a wig and secured funding through an enhancement grant.

- ★ 2023 Macomb County Small But Mighty Award
- ★ 2023 Troy Chamber Corewell Health Resiliency Award
- ★ 2022 City of St. Clair Shores Beautification Award
- ★ 2022 Macomb Daily "Best of the Best" 1st Place
- ★ 2020 Hulafrog Macomb's Favorite Local Charity
- ★ 2019 Macomb Daily "Best of the Best"
- ★ 2018 Crain's Notable Women in Nonprofits
- ★ 2018 Athena Award from Macomb Foundation
- ★ 2017 American Salon "Women in Beauty"
- ★ 2016 Girl Scouts of Southeastern MI One Tough Cookie Award
- ★ 2015 National Association of Professional Women VIP Woman of the Year Award
- ★ 2014 Leadership Macomb People's Choice Award Favorite Nonprofit Executive Director
- ★ 2014 Molina Healthcare Community Champion
- ★ 2012 State of Michigan Special Tribute
- ★ 2011 Macomb County Hall of Fame
- ★ 2011 Art Van Hope Award
- ★ 2009 Detroit News "Michiganian of the Year"
- ★ 2007 "Governor's Service Award" for Exemplary Community Service
- ★ 2005 The Optimist Club Champion's Award
- ★ 2005 Women Who Make Magic
- ★ 2003 Macomb County Board of Commissioner's Outstanding Volunteer of the Year

