



MAGGIE VARNEY BIOGRAPHY

Maggie Varney is a licensed cosmetologist who has been in the beauty industry for over 40 years and has been a successful business owner and entrepreneur for over 30 years. Maggie runs two successful businesses; **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 national **Look Good Feel Better Adult & Teen Programs** for 29 years, 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 2010, the organization opened a 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.

Maggie's Wigs 4 Kids of Michigan has grown tremendously and it has become necessary to open a permanent brick-and-mortar for the organization to further expand and double the amount of kids we serve. Maggie's goal and current efforts are to establish a forever home for the program. She is also focused on passing wig bills in the **Michigan Senate** and **House of Representatives** which would encourage insurance companies to cover the cost of a child's wig like any other prosthetic. The bills have received bipartisan support and are pending.

- Macomb County Board of Commissioner's **Outstanding Volunteer of the Year 2003**
- The Optimist Club's **Champion's Award**
- "Governor's Service Award" for **Exemplary Community Service 2007**
- Detroit News "**Michiganiaan of the Year**" 2009
- Art Van Hope Award 2011
- Macomb County Hall of Fame 2011
- **Molina Healthcare Community Champion 2014**
- Leadership Macomb People's Choice Award- **Favorite Nonprofit Executive Director 2014**
- National Association of Professional Women's **VIP Woman of the Year Award 2015**
- Girl Scouts of Southeastern MI **One Tough Cookie Award 2016**
- **American Salon "Women in Beauty"** (women who made the beauty industry what it is today) 2017
- Honored with the **Athena Award** by Macomb Foundation in 2018

