

WHAT PROGRAMS ARE AVAILABLE?

Variety—the Children’s Charity provides children with disabilities unique programs, experiences, and equipment, so they may live life to the fullest and not be left out, left behind, or excluded.

Variety offers three adaptive equipment programs for eligible children:

- 1) **Variety’s My Bike® Program**, which currently provides Rifton adaptive bikes (with Rifton accessories) to children with disabilities, so they can experience the joy, freedom, and belonging that’s created through riding a bike.
- 2) **Variety’s My Stroller® Program**, which currently provides a Kid Kart® Mighty Lite adaptive stroller to eligible kids with disabilities for mobility and/or safety in the community.

Typically, a family must choose between having a wheelchair or adaptive stroller. So, as a wheelchair is more necessary, an adaptive stroller allows for easier “on-the-go” mobility and participation in daily activities and throughout the community. With an adaptive stroller, kids are no longer isolated and it has an immediate impact on their lives. For others (not necessarily with mobility challenges), a child might need an adaptive stroller to stay safe while out in the community.

- 3) **Variety’s My Voice® Program** provides a communication device (currently a restricted iPad with a prescribed communication app) to eligible children with a communication disorder to give them a voice at all times – enabling kids to express their thoughts, feelings, wants, and needs.

This device is designed solely for communication, so most features are disabled / restricted to focus on the child’s communication and their one prescribed communication app –making it their voice.

“Our **My Voice®** Program is financed {in part} by a grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Community and Economic Development as well as generously funded by community donations.”

SOME THINGS TO KNOW:

- **We welcome you to apply for more than one of Variety’s equipment programs!** At Variety, if your child is eligible and can benefit from one, two, or all three pieces of equipment, then we want you to apply!
- If your child outgrew their mobility or communication equipment provided by Variety, then you are able to re-apply after 3 years (for mobility) or 4 years (for communication). **See pages 10,12-13 for more details.**
- Equipment must be presented within one year of application approval or a new application must be completed.
- Please note there is **NO CATCH** to our programs. Equipment is free to those that qualify and can benefit.

As part of the program, Variety requires the applicant and his/her parent or legal guardian to attend a scheduled regional presentation to receive the equipment to properly review all safety and equipment specifics before it is taken home. Please be aware that the scheduling of these presentations can take some time, so your patience is greatly appreciated.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

1. Reside in one of the 71 counties that Variety currently serves, including:

59 counties in Pennsylvania: Adams, Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Bedford, Blair, Bradford, Butler, Cambria, Cameron, Carbon, Centre, Clarion, Clearfield, Clinton, Columbia, Crawford, Cumberland, Dauphin, Elk, Erie, Fayette, Forest, Franklin, Fulton, Greene, Huntingdon, Indiana, Jefferson, Juniata, Lackawanna, Lawrence, Lehigh, Luzerne, Lycoming, McKean, Mercer, Mifflin, Monroe, Montour, Northampton, Northumberland, Perry, Pike, Potter, Schuylkill, Somerset, Snyder, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Union, Venango, Warren, Washington, Wayne, Westmoreland, Wyoming, and York.

12 counties in West Virginia: Barbour, Brooke, Doddridge, Hancock, Harrison, Marion, Marshall, Monongalia, Ohio, Preston, Taylor, and Wetzel.

Note: Currently, Variety is only able to provide equipment to a child living in a household with his/her parent or legal guardian (e.g. equipment cannot be provided to a child living in a group home).

2. Have a diagnosed physical, mental, and/or sensory disability documented by your child's current licensed Physical / Occupational Therapist, Personal Care Physician, Physician Assistant, or Certified Nurse Practitioner (**see pages 10 or 12**), or (*if applying for a communication device*), a documented communication disorder by your child's licensed Speech Language Pathologist (preferably with ASHA Certification) - **see page 13**.
3. Be 3 through 21 years of age. An application may be submitted up to 60 days prior to a child's 3rd birthday.
4. Applicant's household income must not exceed Variety's income guidelines. Income verification is required and further information can be found on **pages 6-7**.

# Of Household Members	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Household Salary	\$86,200	\$108,600	\$131,000	\$153,400	\$175,800	\$198,200	\$220,600

—**For each additional household member, please add \$22,400.**

HOW TO APPLY:

1. Read the application carefully and complete all information. **PLEASE PRINT IN INK.**
2. If you need help completing the application, please call Variety at **724-933-0460**.
3. Include proof of income (gross income before taxes and deductions) for your household (**see pages 6-7 for specifics**). You might be asked to provide further verification.
4. Obtain a letter of medical justification (LMJ) from a licensed medical professional for each program(s) that you're applying to (**see pages 10-13 for specifics**).
5. Each parent/guardian living in the household **MUST** sign and date the application (**on page 14**) before it can be processed.

The application can also be completed online at www.varietypittsburgh.org/applynow.