



Variety's **My Bike**® Program, **My Stroller**® Program, & **My Voice**® Program:

All equipment is provided at **NO COST** to families that meet the program's eligibility requirements.

Variety's My Bike Program currently provides a Rifton adaptive bike (including stationary stands and prescribed accessories) to eligible children with disabilities, so they can experience the joy, freedom, and belonging that comes from riding a bike alongside friends and family.

"Demi's new adaptive bike not only helps her improve her muscle tone and keep her active, but it will also help her feel like she can keep up with her brother and peers. Demi is a very active 5-year-old, who loves to be as independent as possible. This bike will help her confidence and make family time outside a lot more fun for her... and less stressful for mom dad!"

-Maria, mom of Demi (right)



Variety's My Stroller Program

currently provides a Convoid EZ Rider adaptive stroller to eligible kids for "on-the-go" mobility or general safety / inclusion in the community, especially for kids living with elopement issues. With an adaptive stroller, families are no longer isolated, and it has an immediate impact on their lives.

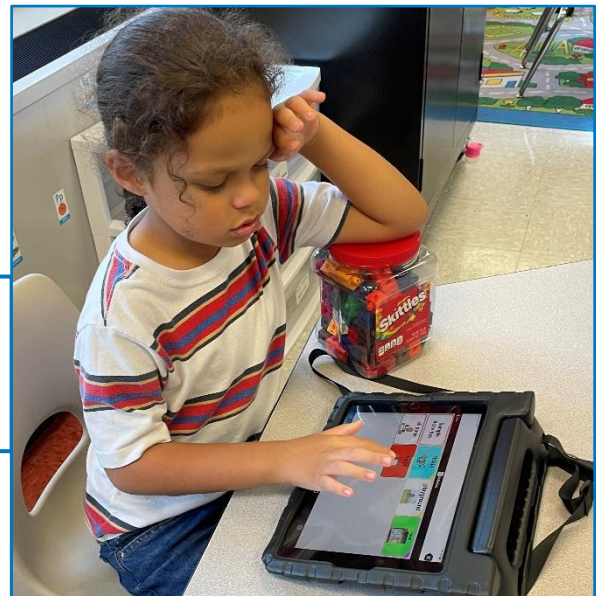
"Izzy can walk but constantly stops and flops to the ground, and she's also a wanderer, which is a big safety concern. Having an adaptive stroller will make our family outings so much more enjoyable! We tend to stay home a lot due to the inconvenience and stress of going out, but Izzy is the youngest of my 6 girls. With this new stroller, it will make all our lives much easier, less stressful, and above all, safer for Izzy!"

-BrieAnn, mom of Izzy (left)



Variety's My Voice Program provides a communication device (i.e. a restricted iPad with one SLP prescribed communication app) to eligible children who are nonverbal (or have a communication disorder) to give them the ability to express their thoughts, feelings, wants, and needs 24/7.

"Our hope with the device is that our son can finally communicate with us. Through the device, he can express himself, and that will greatly help our whole family to better understand his needs because he does not speak." -Wilmarie, mom of Javier (right)



What is Variety the Children's Charity?

- ❖ With a mission to empower children with disabilities to live life to the fullest, Variety the Children's Charity provides life-changing mobility and communication equipment to ensure our most vulnerable kids are no longer left out, left behind, or excluded. **Simply, we're helping kids, be kids by meeting tangible, unmet needs.**
- ❖ Initially founded as a social club in 1927, the so-named "Variety Club" quickly evolved into a charity one-year later after the group found a baby girl who was left in the Sheridan Theatre in Pittsburgh.
- ❖ After first listening to parents, Variety's **My Bike®** Program kicked off Nov. 5, 2012. The success of **My Bike** led to the creation of Variety's **My Stroller®** and **My Voice®** Programs, which both kicked off Nov. 14, 2014.
- ❖ In total, more than **7,200** adaptive bikes, adaptive strollers, and communication devices have been presented since November 2012 (surpassing **\$10.9 million** in equipment).

Who is eligible for Variety's equipment programs?

- Variety's adaptive equipment programs serve children and youth who have a documented mental, physical, or sensory disability; reside in Variety's service area; are 3 through 21 years of age; meet the income guidelines; as well as the other eligibility requirements outlined in the application.
- An applicant's household income must meet the current income guidelines, including: **2** household members (below \$102,200); **3** household members (below \$129,100); **4** household members (below \$156,000); **5** household members (below \$182,900); **6** household members (below \$209,800); **7** household members (below \$236,700); **8** household members (below \$263,600); **9** household members (below \$290,500).

Variety recognizes that families who have a child with disabilities typically experience greater expenses due to medical costs, therapy appointments, equipment, medications, and a variety of other needs or circumstances.

All equipment is provided at NO COST to families that meet the program's guidelines.

- Current Service Area includes **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 Counties.

How does someone apply to Variety's equipment programs?

- Complete an application online at www.varietypittsburgh.org/applynow, or contact Variety to have one mailed to you or if you have questions (call 724-933-0460 / email info@varietypittsburgh.org).
- Eligible families can apply all year long for one, two, or even all three pieces of equipment if the child can benefit – **you do not need to choose just one.**

How much does it cost to sponsor equipment & how can someone donate?

- The cost to sponsor one adaptive bike is \$2,500, one adaptive stroller is \$1,800, and one communication device is \$1,200. Donations can be given online (www.varietypittsburgh.org/donate), or by mailing a check (address below) made payable to Variety. Any donation can be designated to a specific county or program.

*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.*

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS.



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