

# Variety Cares Community Alert

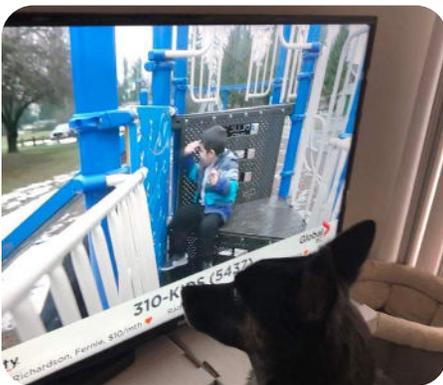
An exclusive update for you & other committed individuals who provide kids with the long-lasting support they need every single day!

## Thank you for your monthly commitment to Variety!

I hope you had an enjoyable holiday season and a splendid new year! We are blessed and extremely grateful to receive ongoing support from everyone in our Variety Cares Community despite the economic challenges we are all facing. Your incredible commitment provides steady and reliable funding that enables Variety to say "Yes!" when kids and families reach out for help. It also means that kids aren't at risk of experiencing a break in funding, so they continue to build on the progress they achieve year after year.



*Kaitlyn & her family, Richmond*



## Let your friends know about your generous support

In this upcoming *Variety Show of Hearts Telethon* on February 26th, we'll have the opportunity to recognize some of our committed monthly donors for their generosity. There is a possibility that your name, city, and annual donation amount could be displayed at the bottom of the screen inspiring other donors to make a monthly donation. If you have already given us your permission or let us know your preference for remaining anonymous ... Thank you!

If you would like to confirm your decision or you have changed your mind, please contact Kitty at 604.268.3885 or by email at [kitty.au@variety.bc.ca](mailto:kitty.au@variety.bc.ca).

## What's new?

### 117 New Variety Cares Community Members

I want to welcome all our new members and acknowledge those who have increased their monthly donation or made an additional gift to Variety since October 1st - the beginning of our new fiscal year. We are overwhelmed by your generosity as your support removes a financial burden from our families and ensures their kids will have the essential equipment, therapies, and counseling they'll need to grow and succeed. Thank you so much!



**Members increased monthly commitment**



**Members made an extra donation**



**New Members welcomed**

## How your monthly contributions can have a greater impact

Switch your payment to automatic bank withdrawal! Here are the advantages:

1. Easy one-time setup
2. Never worry about your credit card expiring or being compromised
3. Cost-effective - fewer administrative costs associated with automatic bank withdrawals

Simply email [kitty.au@variety.bc.ca](mailto:kitty.au@variety.bc.ca) a blank cheque marked VOID or call 604.268.3885 to provide all the numbers at the bottom of your cheque. Kitty can set it up for you right away so your monthly support can make a bigger impact to Variety kids all year round. Visit our webpage for more details: [variety.bc.ca/giving/monthly/](http://variety.bc.ca/giving/monthly/)



*Cieran, 9, Abbotsford*

# New Funding Initiative

## Variety helps 90+ kids with private psychoeducational assessments (PA)

With a little extra help, the reasons behind a child's learning disorder can be identified. Learning is complex and some kids need a different approach to succeed. Since Variety began funding private assessments in October 2021, we have provided kids like Jasper access to Private PA so school administrators and families can work together to provide kids with a personalized approach to learning.



Jasper, 8, Dawson Creek

### Who needs a psychoeducational assessment (PA)?

Kids who are falling behind their peers or are trying hard but are still struggling can benefit from a PA. 75% of children with a learning disorder encountered difficulties with social relationships, organizational skills and mental wellbeing.

### What is a Psychoeducational Assessment?

PA's provide access to individual education plans (IEP) which allows a student to learn in a way that works for them. PA's help to empower children while building their confidence & self-esteem.



Scan the QR code to watch Jasper's story



*"The assessment helped to identify the different areas where Jasper is struggling and it gave the school some really good ideas on how best to support his learning. The IEP is the best plan for Jasper to enjoy a successful school journey."*

- Christine, Jasper's Mom

## How does your support make a difference?

The wait for a PA through the public system can be over 2 years and the cost to access an assessment through the private system is approximately \$3,000. The wait is unacceptable and the cost is out of reach for many families which is why Variety has stepped in to provide early assessments which is crucial for academic and social development.

## Your 2022 tax receipt is ready

At the beginning of each year, Variety will send you a tax receipt for the previous year's annual donations and we will also keep you posted with Variety's latest news via this newsletter. If you have changed your contact information or have any questions about your tax receipts, please call 1.800.381.2040 or email [donorservices@variety.bc.ca](mailto:donorservices@variety.bc.ca).

Please see enclosed your tax receipt for filing.

If you have requested your tax receipt emailed, please look for an email from [donorservices@variety.bc.ca](mailto:donorservices@variety.bc.ca) sent on Friday, January 20. If you don't find it in your inbox, check your spam or junk folder and be sure to add [@variety.bc.ca](mailto:@variety.bc.ca) domain to your email safe senders list.

## New Messages from the Heart

The "Messages from the Heart" column offers our Variety Cares Community members an opportunity to share inspiring messages & stories with one another. If you have a message or story you'd like to share, please contact Kitty at 604.268.3885 or email [kitty.au@variety.bc.ca](mailto:kitty.au@variety.bc.ca). Check out our new website at [variety.bc.ca](http://variety.bc.ca) to read their full stories!



To read Penny's poem, please go to our website at [variety.bc.ca/news/pennys-words-of-inspiration-for-families-with-special-needs-children/](http://variety.bc.ca/news/pennys-words-of-inspiration-for-families-with-special-needs-children/)

Penny has been supporting Variety for decades. She deeply feels the hardship that young families face when they provide care to their kids with special needs. She wrote a poem which expresses her heartfelt love and encouragement for all parents who have children living with challenges. Thank you so much Penny for sharing such an inspirational message with our Variety Cares Community!

- Penny Thornton-Trump  
VCC Member since 2004



Visit our webpage here to read Stephanie & Kendrick's full story: [variety.bc.ca/news/meet-variety-week-donor-stephanie/](http://variety.bc.ca/news/meet-variety-week-donor-stephanie/)

Pictured here is a heartwarming photo of Stephanie and 4-year-old Kendrick who now can receive government funding to access the therapies he desperately needs. "Variety helped me when I needed funding for my son's autism assessment. I was so grateful when the application was approved and it's already made a big difference to my child. Now I want to give back monthly by joining the Variety Cares Community so that my gifts can help other parents and children too!"

- Stephanie Kouakou  
VCC Member since 2022

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for your commitment to support Variety as a monthly donor. If you have any feedback, we'd love to hear from you so we can continue to work towards a future where no child goes without the equipment or essential support they need to thrive. We look forward to connecting with you in our next issue!



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