

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

A Million Thanks!

As we are wrapping up our 57th Annual *Variety Show of Hearts Telethon*, we are more than thankful to everyone in our Variety Cares Community who stepped up and showed their hearts. Your dedicated support inspired many stories of hope, courage and resilience from children and families across the province.



In the days leading up to this year's Telethon we had over 1,100 children & youth waiting to see if Variety could provide the critical support they need. With demand being at an all-time high, **every gift makes a difference**. We would like to express our deepest gratitude to those of you in the community who have despite challenging economic times continued or even increased your monthly commitment with us, to those who have made an additional gift and we welcome with open arms our newest members who have recently joined this amazing community. We appreciate each and every one of you and we are more determined than ever to see the day when every child can fulfill their hopes & dreams and can live a life without limits.

30

Members increased monthly commitment

137

Members made an additional donation

83

New members welcomed

92

Switched to automatic bank withdrawal

How your monthly contribution is supporting the long-term development of kids like Jonathan!

With the monthly support of our Variety Cares Community, Variety BC can take a planned, long-term approach to making a lasting impact in children's lives. Jonathan for instance is truly a miracle child who has overcome many serious medical challenges in his 12 years. Jonathan was born with Down Syndrome, congenital heart defects and many other health complications.



Scan the QR code to check out Jonathan & Darlene's interview on Global BC's *Global News Morning*:

<https://globalnews.ca/video/9325809/help-a-variety-child-this-holiday-season>



"Jonathan wouldn't be where he is today if it wasn't for the help that we've been receiving. It's made such a difference in our lives ... the donations that people have put in. You don't realize until you need it that it's there and then when you do, you are so thankful. We are so grateful for everything the Variety Cares Community does for us."

- Darlene, Jonathan's Mom



When Jonathan was a newborn, Variety was able to supply his family with a specialized - and expensive - baby formula for an entire month after one of his surgeries. This alone helped his family through a very difficult time.



Upon entering elementary school, Variety made it possible for Jonathan to receive ongoing tutoring at the Down Syndrome Resource Foundation. This crucial support has been instrumental in the seventh grader's academic success & it has also taught Jonathan life skills that will help him become more independent as he reaches adolescence.



Last year, Variety supported Jonathan with a private psychoeducational assessment. This assessment provided school administrators along with his teacher and his parents with the tools to best support his learning as an individual education plan (IEP) was developed. Thanks to you, Jonathan now learns in a way that works for him!

Welcome Andrea to the Variety Cares Community



"This is an immensely meaningful opportunity for me personally having an older sister with Down Syndrome and experiencing firsthand the life-changing effects of critical supports that enable independence, mobility and social inclusion. I look forward to working with the team and its partners as we advance this important work with innovation and care."

- Andrea Tang, VCC Member, 2023

We are pleased to welcome Andrea Tang, our new Chief Executive Officer of Variety BC to the Variety Cares Community. Andrea is not only a transformational leader with two decades of dynamic leadership and diverse experience in both the private and nonprofit sectors but she is also a strong believer in monthly giving because of its tremendous impact on Variety's ability to help kids with complex health care needs. Andrea joined our monthly community immediately because she knows firsthand the life-transforming impact that monthly donations can have for BC's kids.

Did you know that with just a little bit of planning, you can create a brighter future for Variety kids?

You can support kids who have complex health care needs into the future with a well thought out planned gift. If you believe that all children should have the right to live in an inclusive world and live a life without limits, we hope you will consider speaking with your financial advisor and/or lawyer to determine how best to achieve your long-term philanthropic goals. Here are a few examples of how you can create a brighter future for BC's kids:

1. Leave a bequest in your will to Variety BC
2. Donate your life insurance to Variety BC
3. Name Variety BC as a beneficiary on your investment
4. Set up a donor-advised fund

If you have already included Variety – the Children's Charity of BC in your will – thank you and **we'd love to hear from you!** If you are considering a gift for the future, we would be happy to work with you and your professional advisor to ensure your future gift fulfills your wishes.

Contact Jennifer Shang at 604.268.4038 or email jennifer.shang@variety.bc.ca or visit <https://www.variety.bc.ca/giving/planned-giving/> for more information.



Prescott & her mom, Lindsey

Messages from the Heart



"Raising a child with physical and mental health challenges puts parenting to the extreme as they need to give care 24/7. The process can be frustrating for parents as they worry their kids aren't keeping up with their peers. As community members, we step up to help the less fortunate and we want to challenge others to do the same. Everyone can afford to do something for their community whether it's monetary or voluntary. In our case, we choose to give monthly!"

- Antony & Sherry Numans,
VCC Members, 2022

Thank you for your commitment to making the impossible possible for BC's kids. Many of our families are facing critical times and we appreciate your support which is helping us to address this ever-increasing demand for help. If you have any questions about your donation, stories for the *Messages from the Heart* column or feedback for us, please feel free to reach out at any time. See you again for our Summer Gratitude Report!



Jennifer Shang
Director, Donor Relations
604.268.4038
jennifer.shang@variety.bc.ca



Kitty Au
Donor Relations Officer
604.268.3885
kitty.au@variety.bc.ca