



YOUR MONTHLY DONOR GRATITUDE REPORT

2022 - 2023



**THANK YOU
Variety Cares
Community ...**



**... for transforming the lives of 222 kids
and making Celina & Hana's story possible!**

Celina & Hana's story - a conversation with their mom

How has Variety's support helped you as a parent?

Monica: As a single mom, I know that I'm fully responsible for my kids ... their well-being is always my top priority. Before connecting with Variety, I relied on my family, friends, and community services to take care of my kids as I worked full-time as a registered care aid to make ends meet. After a series of car accidents, I was injured, lost my job, and had nowhere else to turn. When Variety stepped in to support both girls, it gave me peace of mind knowing my girls were being given the best chance to succeed. I was thankfully able to focus on providing food and other necessities for my family and it took a huge burden off my shoulders both financially & mentally.



**Attending the first
Variety Christmas Party (2013)**

Where would your family be today if your social worker hadn't introduced you to Variety?

Monica: That is truly a scary thought and one I don't even want to imagine. There were so many times when I wanted to give up and I felt like there was no hope. Watching my kids struggle at school and in life was heartbreaking and I often felt helpless. Both Celina's and Hana's future would've been uncertain. That's why I'm so thankful to see them thriving today - graduating with a scholarship, pursuing careers, having the opportunity to achieve something they enjoy and giving back to their community.

How did Variety's support impact the lives of Celina & Hana over the last 10 years?

Monica: With the support of specialized therapies and mental wellness counselling, the girls were able to move past their traumatic experiences and learn coping mechanisms to minimize the impact of the issues they had. The educational support gave them so much confidence and hope at school. When the girls were able to attend Variety family events like Boat for Hope and the Variety Kid's Christmas Party, they also had an opportunity to meet other kids who were facing similar struggles and felt less alone. It has taught them how to communicate outside of their bubbles and to make new friends. The support has been instrumental in shaping my kids into the responsible young adults they are now ... adults who have a bright future ahead!



**Attending Variety's
Boat for Hope (2016)**

How is your family paying it forward?

Monica: We were blessed to receive help from Variety. Since we began receiving support, our family has been watching the telethon together. We know Variety inside and out and when the girls got a little older, they wanted to give back by fundraising. We sold pins, hotdogs, and chocolates with the proceeds going to Variety so that other kids and families could also be helped. Hana came up with the creative ideas while Celina called all her friends to help by saying ...



"Hey, come and support Variety. There are so many families that are like us and we need your help. It's our way of saying thank you to Variety's donors for their help throughout our life journey. Your generosity has given us a bright future full of possibilities."

Congratulations to Celina & Hana for their academic success. Over the years, the two graduates have raised over \$2,500 for Variety to help one child!



Do you have a great idea for a fun event?

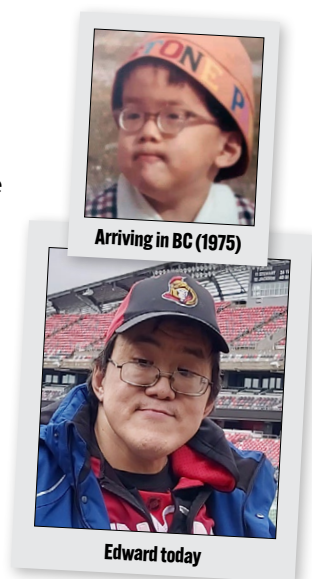
Host a fundraiser at home, at work, online, or in your community. Check out our page www.variety.bc.ca/get-involved/ for details or share your ideas with Kitty at 604.268.3885 or kitty.au@variety.bc.ca.

Shout out to Edward for going above and beyond for Variety!

Edward Lee, a former Variety child and a current monthly donor, created an online fundraising page for his birthday. Thank you Edward for all you do to ensure BC's kids can live a life without limits.

"I will NEVER forget the unbelievable support Variety provided me and my family when we touched down in Vancouver in 1975. That is why for my birthday this year, I asked all those who were willing and able to donate the cost of a coffee to help Variety so they can continue providing top-level care and support to BC's younger generation and their families."

- Edward Lee, VCC Member since 2007



The impact of your gifts

Thank YOU for making the impossible possible for Variety kids and their families across BC. Because of our Variety Cares Community, Variety was able to grant over **\$561,000 between April 2022 and March 2023 to provide support to 222 children** across the province. Scan the QR codes below to learn more about how your gifts helped kids like Sophie, Markus, Markeif, Isaac, Prescott and Alex.



Sophie, 11
North

18%

Adaptive & Mobility Equipment

Variety granted Sophie a manual wheelchair allowing her to conserve her energy so she could continue to enjoy her favourite activities like swimming and bike riding.



Markus & Markeif, 4
Lower Mainland

30%

Private Assessment

After receiving an autism diagnosis from a private assessment funded by Variety, the twin brothers now have access to specialized therapies to support their development so they can realize their potential.



Isaac, 12
Vancouver Island

12%

Mental Wellness

Mental wellness counselling and somatic therapy have both been instrumental in helping Isaac regain his confidence and recover from severe bullying.



Prescott, 2
Okanagan

21%

Specialized Therapies

The physiotherapy sessions Prescott receives from Variety are crucial to her development and are working to improve her motor skills.



Alex, 14
Lower Mainland

19%

Tuition & Tutoring

Alex found public school incredibly difficult and needed LGBTQ+ support. Variety is funding Alex's tuition so they can get the one-on-one support they need to thrive.



Quick facts about Variety's Private Autism Assessment Grants

1 in every 39 kids*

In BC is suspected to be on the autism spectrum

Source *[Autism BC](#) **[BC Autism Assessment Network \(BCAAN\)](#)

Average 80.6 weeks wait**

The average age for a public assessment in BC is 6.5 years-old because of the waitlist.

Between June 2021 and March 2023

\$3.5M

has been committed by Variety to support kids with private autism assessments

Est. \$19M

Government funding has been unlocked

\$3,135

The average cost of granting a private autism assessment

Variety BC is a catalyst of systematic change. Its impact has already reached:



1,150 kids with a private autism assessment
(62% are under the age of 2)



in **98** communities



with a **\$45,400** average household income

Early diagnosis is crucial because it unlocks funding to therapies and support that these kids desperately need. With diagnosis also comes understanding and increased confidence and self-esteem. Thank you for your support which is helping to build stronger communities. Scan this QR code to see how your support is impacting kids like Kaitlyn who recently received a private autism assessment.



"Autism isn't a limit, a gate, a wall that you cannot escape. It's not a disease or trap. It's a different perspective on the world. Another way to see things."

- Kaitlyn, 13, Campbell River



How to help even more kids?

1. Upgrade your monthly commitment by August 31.

The Ames Family Foundation will match your increased donation for the next 12 months.

2. Consider our planned giving program.

Learn more on the next page of this report.

3. Help Variety BC save credit card fees by making automatic bank withdrawals as your preferred payment method.



A gift of \$3,000 (or \$75/month for 3 years) can provide a child with a private autism assessment

Simple ways to make a huge impact!

With just a little bit of planning, there are simple ways to make a big impact on the lives of BC's kids while providing you with significant tax advantages.

Donate publicly traded securities as your "in-kind" donation

Donating securities in your lifetime or through your will can provide both you and Variety - the Children's Charity with significant benefits in tax saving:

- ✓ You will receive a tax receipt for the fair market value of the securities.
- ✓ You will pay no tax on capital gains.
- ✓ The charitable tax credit you receive will offset other taxable income.

Name Variety as a beneficiary on your investments

Another way to offset any taxes and benefit your estate is to name Variety - the Children's Charity as a direct beneficiary of the proceeds of your investment accounts such as:

- Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP),
- Registered Retirement Income Fund (RRIF),
- Tax-Free Savings Account (TFSA), or
- Pension

The total amount will go straight to helping kids across BC. These funds will pass outside of your estate, will not be subject to probate fees **and** your estate will receive a tax receipt for the full amount of the gift.

Before you decide to donate securities or investments, please contact your financial advisor and discuss the vehicle that best suits your estate planning needs. Not only will you be saving tax for your loved ones but also shaping the future of BC's kids with special & complex health needs.

"Being loyal supporters of Variety BC for decades, we recognize the incredible work they do and we care deeply for the kids of BC. For us, the logical next step as we considered our long-term financial planning was to ensure that Variety benefitted from our unused RRIF account. Naming Variety as a beneficiary of our investment accounts was simple and we feel good about the impact that this will have on the future of our province."

- Luis & Rose, Prince George

For any inquiries about planned giving, please contact Kitty Au at 604.268.3885 or kitty.au@variety.bc.ca



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