



# Variety's "My Bike" Program Expands to West Virginia

## What is Variety?

- Variety the Children's Charity provides children with disabilities unique programs, experiences, and equipment, so they may live life to the fullest.

## What is Variety's "My Bike" Program?

- Variety's "My Bike" Program is an initiative to provide eligible children with disabilities with adaptive bicycles that are individually customized, so they may have the freedom of a bike and the joy of riding alongside friends and family.

## When did it begin?

- Since Variety's "My Bike" Program kicked off in Western Pennsylvania on November 5, 2012, more than 525 adaptive bikes have been sponsored for kids with disabilities, and it is now expanding to West Virginia.

## Who is eligible for an adaptive bike?

- Variety's "My Bike" Program serves children and youth who have a disability; are under 21 years of age; can meet the eligibility guidelines outlined in the application; and, reside in one of the following West Virginia counties: Barbour, Doddridge, Harrison, Marion, Marshall, Monongalia, Ohio, Preston, Taylor, and Wetzel.
  - Variety's "My Bike" Program also serves eligible kids in 15 counties in Western Pa.

## How does someone apply for Variety's "My Bike" Program?

- An application can be obtained through Variety's website <http://www.varietypittsburgh.org/MyBikeProgram.asp>, or by calling the Variety West Virginia office at 304-400-8300.
- Applications can be mailed to Variety's West Virginia Office at 1111 Van Voorhis Road, Suite G Morgantown, WV 26505; or faxed to 412-747-2680. Please call 304-400-8300 with any questions.

## What have these adaptive bikes meant to the children?

- For a child with a disability who struggles to skip, run, and even walk, an adaptive bicycle can be life changing – **to no longer be left out or left behind.**
- "When I got on my bike for the first time, I was like, 'Oh my gosh, this is so amazing'." -Isiah, age 10.

## What have these adaptive bikes meant to the parents?

- The bikes enable children with disabilities to ride with their siblings, as well as their parents, and have allowed the whole family to have fun together (as we have heard repeatedly from parents).
- "I'm not sure that I'll ever get used to the surge of joy that I feel when he's on his bike."  
-Mary, mother of James.

## How much does it cost to sponsor one adaptive bike?

- The cost to sponsor one adaptive bike is \$1,800.

## How can someone donate to Variety's "My Bike" Program?

- Donations can be given online, or through U.S. Mail being made out to "Variety" and designated to "My Bike".
- Please mail donations to Variety's Main Office at 3 Penn Center West, Suite 229 Pittsburgh, Pa. 15276.



**variety**<sup>TM</sup>  
the children's charity

***“Changing the lives of children with disabilities...  
one bike, one child, one family at a time.”***



**“I’m not sure that I’ll ever get used to the surge of joy that I feel when I see James on his bike. This bike is more than just three wheels, a handle bar and a seat. It’s a doorway to freedom.”**  
– Mary, mother of James

**“Literally, this was such a pain-free and easy process. Sometimes with children with disabilities, you have to fight to get that walker or wheelchair, and you set yourself up for a letdown all the time. I just couldn’t believe how quick and easy the process was to get Trinity her bike.”**  
- Kelley, mother of Trinity

