



# Impact Report 2017/18

Variety – the children's charity NT





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# The Why

The year has provided us with another great opportunity to work diligently towards meeting our mission to reach as many Territory kids in need as possible.

The Board and Management collectively explored how best we could maximise our resources and expand our partnerships. To further our combined impact with the development of a new strategic plan. The plan makes a clear statement about our priorities for the forthcoming period, given the analysis of what has gone on in the past, and what is needed for the future.



Funds raised go towards goods and services such as Goanna Park, an adventure camp for teenagers with a disability. Or a special trike that not only helps mobility but also social interaction.

All kids deserve a fair go and with the success of our Bash and the other fundraising activities, we are able to make sure the kids who miss out, can always join in.

Fuelling our successes is the incredible support of our volunteers, sponsors, donors and dedicated members. There is great optimism and hope to explore ways of moving forward towards achieving our strategic goals.

Please read on to find out more.

## **Foster Stavridis**

**Chief Barker,  
Variety - the children's  
charity NT**

## **Katrina Fong Lim**

**General Manager,  
Variety - the children's  
charity NT**



**We believe that  
all kids deserve  
a fair go in life.**

**So we help  
kids with these  
challenges:**



**Sick**



**Disadvantaged**



**Special Needs**





## By delivering the elements of the Variety Kids Support Framework:

### GRANTS

We grant a range of things to provide practical help to kids and organisations in need.



Equipment Grants



Therapy Grants



Service Grants



Program Grants



Supplies Grants



Sunshine Coach Grants

### SCHOLARSHIPS

We give scholarships to encourage the talents of kids in need.



### KIDS' EVENTS

We hold events to engage & bring joy to kids in need & their families.

**Goanna Park**

**Special Children's Christmas Party**



To create lasting impact around Australia



Number of Aussie kids  
impacted by Variety  
this year

**111,712**

## And a better life for the kids of the Northern Territory



We granted:

**\$156,855**  
to help kids  
in need

We supported:

**around  
30  
different  
conditions**

We impacted:

**715  
kids in  
NT**

# But numbers can only tell part of the story...



## Goanna Park

Goanna Park Adventure Camp is a unique experience for teenagers with mild physical or mental disabilities. It challenges them to overcome barriers and aims to increase self-esteem and confidence. This is a jam packed week of activities from jumping on a flying fox to busting out a move at the disco. This program is run in partnership with the Junior Police Rangers who act as junior carers and friends. Their interaction with the campers is invaluable. Run solely with volunteers, Goanna Park is Variety NT's flagship program.

## Variety Starfish Swim Program

Splish, splash Variety NT has formally joined forces with the Variety Starfish Swim Program to work with them as a community partner. Starfish provides free learn to swim lessons for kids with disabilities, helping them improve their health outcomes and helping the families to confidently live around water.

Founded in 2007 by Donna Rousham, this program continues to invest in their instructors by ensuring that they have accreditation. Supported by Power and Water since 2016, there has been an increase in numbers from 20 to over 50, with children on a waitlist. As a result of this partnership, Variety NT will direct funds raised from the Santa Fun Run to this organisation.





# Variety 'TnT' Bash

## An Absolute Cracker!

25th August – 1st September 2018

It was an explosion of colour, cars, corrugation and characters as the 27th annual NT Variety Bash hit the dusty roads from Tennant Creek to Townsville. 21 Bash Teams shared an incredible journey in what was a full celebration of a years' worth of fundraising for Variety NT, an effort which was to be truly admired. From the cars and costumes, to the functions and mudguards, to the scams and Red Faces "talent", they all went the extra mile to make this event a BLAST!

Bash Chair, Damien Pedersen set a goal for 20 Bash Cars to enter and raise \$250k for Variety NT. Through hard work and encouragement, we are so excited to say that 21 Bash Cars entered and raised a whopping \$250,001- BOOM! Congratulations go to the Corkettes of Alice Springs, our Top Hat award winners for highest fundraisers coming in at \$30,165, an amazing effort girls with Camel Car and Toy Story our 2nd & 3rd Highest fundraisers.

We also celebrated Rhonda 'Lee Lee' Rhees completing her 20th NT Bash!

Next year we are so excited to highlight the beautiful surrounds of Alice Springs and the Red Centre, aiming to raise even more for the kids of Variety- the Children's Charity NT!

*"I would like to thank everyone that I have met over the last few weeks! You have all been the warmest, kindest people I have had the pleasure to get to know. Everyone really made us feel like we were a part of the family."*

Dan, Baggage Truck Official 2018





## Casimir

Casimir is a 16 year old indigenous boy who is diagnosed with Mild developmental delay (IQ 64), severe receptive & expressive language disorder and ADHD. Casimir attends St Phillips College and receives extra support for his education. Casimir is learning to type and is able to operate a computer. Casimir has difficulty expressing himself verbally and through written work. Casimir's fine motor skills are below what would typically be seen in a 16 year old, as a result handwriting and expressing himself through written work can be very demanding.

We purchased a laptop for him to help him with his school work.

*"Casimir loves his computer. He is using it everyday at school and at home. It is getting a lot of use."*

Casimir's Grandmother

## Palmerston College SEC

Supporting organisations like schools helps Variety NT to spread our impact. Our grant this year to Palmerston College SEC was to assist with their Life Skills Program.

*"Thanks to Variety funding Palmerston College SEC students are able to engage fully in our Life Skills Programs. Through our school programs students engage in Community Access which allows them to practice appropriate social behaviours in the local community and beyond. Students participate in a Shopping Program which teaches them how to plan and budget for their personal shopping and educational events."*

Senior Teacher



# Aviana

Aviana is 2 years old, an age her parents never thought she would reach. Aviana has a rare muscular disorder (spinal muscular atrophy type 1) that means most children won't reach their first birthday. However, an experimental treatment has given Aviana opportunities to experience the life her mum, Bethan, and dad, Jonny, never dreamed she'd have.

Variety NT has helped Aviana explore her world with a grant to provide an electric wheel chair and vehicle modifications for a wheel chair lift.

*"Having a modified van will truly change our lives, it will allow Aviana to take part in all the things that her friends are doing. We are so grateful to Variety and Woolworths for giving Aviana the gift of freedom, it's thanks to them that she can explore the world around her just like all toddlers should."*

Aviana's Mum and Dad



## Sadadeen Primary School

With 98% of a school cohort identifying as Aboriginal, 70% who have English as a second language and 68% being diagnosed with a disability, Sadadeen Primary School is working hard to create a learning environment which is engaging and hands on. Variety NT provided a grant to purchase some giant Lego blocks and the smiles are all that needs to be said.

# How you helped

## Volunteers

Volunteers continue to be the lifeblood of this organisation. Be it selling tickets, cooking sausages and pies or reading Board papers, volunteers are essential to the success of the organisation. Fund raisers, events organisers, bashers, board members and container unpackers, this year they once again contributed over 10,000 hours. All for NT Kids.



## Australia Day UTE Run

Despite a very wet lead up, the 17th Annual Hot 100 Australia Day UTE Run, got enthusiasts out in their thousands. Just over 300 UTEs put their best wheels forward and really got into the spirit of the day. The Classic Holden Car Club turned up to help with the Slappas Thong Throwing and Muffler throwing and NT Gassers bbqed sausages for the cause. Thousands came out onto their street to wave at the utes. Our thanks to sponsors Hot 100, Noonamah Tavern, Charles Darwin Uni, Australia Day Council NT, Shannons, Slappas Thongs and Territory Auto & 4X4 \$22,862 was raised for NT Kids.



## Variety of Chefs

Delicious! Local Chefs Jimmy Shu, Steve Sunk, Meann Duco, and Miann Santos joined celebrity chef Matt Golinski to present their special Variety Signature Dishes, which the culinary geniuses at Skycity's banquet kitchen then served to the guests. Outstanding Food matched with amazing wines thanks to Tim Story at Top Shelf wines and thirst quenching beer thanks to James Squire, helped us raise \$39,000 for Variety Livvi's Place, a fully accessible and inclusive playspace. Because every NT Kid deserves the opportunity to play.



## Woolworths Supermarkets

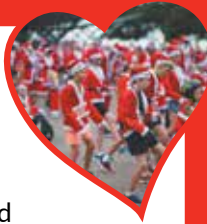
The partnership with Woolworths and Variety has delivered \$57,350 this year to help NT Kids like Aviana to get her wheels and Alice Springs based Ananias to come to Goanna Park. Staff sold raffles and tokens and cupcakes and their customers generously gave to achieve this outstanding result. They even shared their marquee with us at the Fred's Pass Show so that we could sell raffle tickets. Thanks Woolworths for all your support.



# How you helped

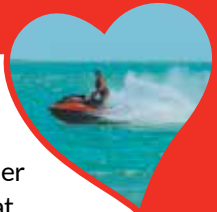
## Santa Fun Run

Over 400 Clauses for a Cause trekked around the Darwin Waterfront on the last Sunday in November. They sweated with Santa and cooled down with Lo Castro Ice Creams. They warmed up with Zumba and relaxed by the lagoon with the Sunday Territorian. Variety Kid Nathan's family fundraised in his memory to become the highest fund raisers and in the process won a trip for two to Broome thanks to Airnorth. All these Santas raised \$6,400 for our Variety families.



## Sandbar Cricket

Howzat! The iconic Darwin event was another fun filled day. Sea, Sun, Sand and Cricket what could possibly go wrong? And nothing did as event partners the Darwin Trailer Boat Club cooked up the snags, the crew at Neptune Marine Services brought out the Bushman barge and all our stuff, Sealink supplied a people ferry and Variety Volunteers provided the rest of the logistics. This year the National Variety Board came to Darwin for the fun. The match was a draw and combined with a monster raffle, the event raised just over \$8,000.

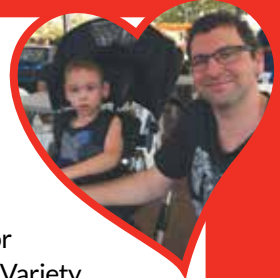


## Special Children's Christmas Party

Always a popular event with over 1,300 children being invited to enjoy the festivities. Children who are sick, disadvantaged or have special needs get to celebrate Christmas with Santa, free gifts, food and games. Left over gifts are distributed to regional centres across the NT and as the organiser's charity of choice, Variety received a donation of \$7,000.

## Holden vs Ford

The old grudge match was on display again this year. This time the event was at Fred's Pass Reserve and just under 100 cars were on display for this show and shine. The brainchild of Variety Volunteer Darren Mc Master, this event netted \$6,000 for NT Kids like his grandchild William.



## Variety of Stars

Champagne, Constellations and Canapes, this was a brand new event this year. Thanks to Ramada Zen Quarter, 60 guests enjoyed a rooftop event, with 360 degree views of the city. After a spectacular sunset, the scene was set for the ever informative Geoff Carr to point out all the brilliance of the stars and planets in our southern sky. The very talented Shalom Kaa crooned his way through a starry inspired playlist. With our mates Woolworths providing the food, Top Shelf Wines and Lion Co the beverages this event raised \$5,000 to help NT Kids live, laugh and learn.





# Thank you to our major partners

## MAJOR PARTNERS



woolworths





## SIGNIFICANT EVENT SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS



## Thank you to all our supporters

Amy Hetherington

Arafura Catering

ARB Darwin

Australian Army

Broadspectrum

Cancer Council

Coffee with a Cop

Coke

Coopers

Corroboree Park Tavern

CPK Refrigeration

Crocodylus Park

Crococaurus Cove

Darwin Convention Centre

Darwin Ice Skating Centre

Darwin Let's Zumba

Darwin Runners & Walkers Club

Darwin Toilet Hire

Darwin Volunteer Coastguards

Darwin Waterfront Corp

Darwin Wavepool

Deco Constructions

Gerry Wood MLA

Guides NT

Humpty Doo Primary School

Junior Police Rangers

Justin Quinter

Kate Worden MLA

Kennards Hire

Mindi Beach Surf Life Saving

Mix FM

Natasha Fyles MLA

Nemarluk School

Neptune Diving Services

Nestle

Ngaree AH Kit MLA

NT Cricket

NT Emergency Services

NT Fire Department

NT Police Traffic Division

NT Water Police

NTRS

Outback Float Planes

Outer Edge Photography

Palmerston Special School

Paul Kirby MLA

Royal Australian Navy

Sealink Darwin

Spirit of Darwin

Spotlight

T for Thomas

Tim Storey - Top End Wines

Tony Sievers MLA

US Marine Corps

Volunteer Coast Guards

Zumba with Thorma & Mel

## Memory from our community

Thank you for providing funding of the four Junior Police Rangers' fees this year.

Your generosity has allowed these four young people to continue participate in our JPR program and comforted and aided the families in ways that cannot really be put into words.

Once again Junior Police Rangers thank Variety whole heartedly for their grants, as a relative small amount of financial aid has made such a difference to these young people, their families and their futures.



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**variety**  
the children's charity