



Impact Report 2018/19

Variety – the children's charity NT



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The Why

This is the first full year of working within our Strategic Plan framework. We have had some outstanding successes. For example in the grants area where we have been successful in receiving a Major Event Grant for the Australia Day UTE run, an office relocation grant and an equipment grant all from the NT Government. We also received a Commonwealth funded Volunteers Grant. All these supports have helped us work towards our financial sustainability.

Our partnership with the City of Darwin to deliver an accessible and inclusive playground at Jingili Water Gardens was formalised. This playground will be Darwin's first playground of its type and it will extend our impact to all the kids in the Darwin area, allowing them all to play together regardless of ability.

The Board and Management have worked together to identify where best to invest our limited funds for the most impact. To this end a Futures Sub-Committee has been convened

to help form the future direction of our grants program. We live in a fast changing world and the disruption that programs like the NDIS bring have to be carefully considered.

All kids deserve a fair go and our fundraising activities help us to help NT kids to reach their full potential. Whether it is a playground, a trike or a scholarship our fundraising activities help to deliver these.

It is the Variety Family; our volunteers, sponsors, donors, members, and most importantly our grant recipients who are the why.



Foster Stavridis
Chief Barker



Katrina Fong Lim
General Manager



**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.

**Freedom
Camp @
Goanna
Park**

**Special
Children's
Christmas
Party**

To create lasting impact around Australia



Number of Aussie kids
impacted by Variety
this year

85,309

And a better life for the kids of the Northern Territory



We granted:

\$137,925
to help kids
in need

We supported:

around
30
different
conditions

We impacted:

808
kids in
NT

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

Shericka

Shericka is 10 years old and lives in the remote NT community of Alpururulam in Central Australia. Shericka has a prosthetic leg having lost her leg at the age of 1 to infection. She had won a place to represent the NT at the School Sports Australian Athletic Championship in Darwin.

Unfortunately due to the great distance she had to travel and the assistance she needed to attend the championships, Shericka needed help to get there. Variety NT provided a scholarship to assist Shericka to achieve her dream of competing on the national stage.

Not only did she win a gold medal in the medley relay, a 1st place pennant for the fun athletics events day but she also set SSA records for long jump and 100m for the classification 64% in these multiclass events.

We think her smile says it all.



Boden

Boden is 3 years old and has Polymicrogyria, Cerebral palsy levels 5, epilepsy. At his age of development Boden needed a quick response grant for a second skin. This aid helps him with his control of his arm.

"Playing is a much more fun and enjoyable experience. Since wearing the splint Boden has learnt to pick up small items such as ping-pong balls/marbles and even small Easter eggs!"

Boden's Mum

Finke School

All Finke School wanted was some books to put in their library. Finke school is a small remote school located 430 km south of Alice Springs. It is situated in the indigenous community of Aputula where the main languages spoken are Yankunytjatjara and Pitjantjatjara and some Arrernte.

Finke School has an average enrolment of 30 students who are 99% indigenous and live in Finke community. Yankunytjatjara is the primary language with English as a second language for all of the students.

"The children had a wonderful time when the BASH vehicles visited Finke School. The children loved the decorated vehicles, they laughed at the antics of the participants and eagerly received lots of goodies. The children were also very happy receiving 135 new books for the school library and their classes. All Finke students love books and they have enjoyed reading and listening to new stories each day in their classes."

Marg Hannan, Principal, Finke School



Riding for the Disabled Top End

RDA Top End is a community not-for-profit organisation that provides riding opportunities for people with a disability. This year Variety NT helped this small but vital community organisation to purchase some new horses. Welcome Kevin, Dylan and Charm

"These horses will provide so much fun and excitement for our riders and volunteers alike and have already proven themselves to be such an asset to our centre."

Volunteer Coordinator



Variety Starfish Swim Program

Variety NT's community partner, Variety Starfish Swim Program is going, well, swimmingly! The program provides free learn to swim lessons for kids with disabilities, helping them to improve their health outcomes and helping the families to confidently live around water.

The specially trained swim instructors are so good one of them won a prize! Tania Sloane won the AUSTSWIM teacher of Access and Inclusion NT Award. A great recognition for a skilled, caring and patient teacher.

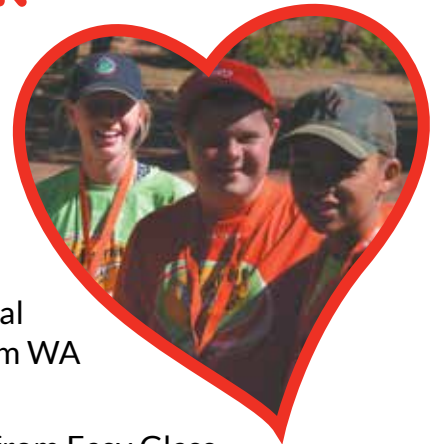
Freedom Camp @ Goanna Park

A unique experience for teenagers with a mild physical or mental disability. This is an adventure camp with a difference. From abseiling to wave pooling; from cuddling a snake to busting a move at the disco; this camp challenges the participants to overcome barriers. It aims to increase self-esteem and confidence.

With 19 participants; 20 Junior Police Rangers as buddies; Carers; Drivers; Nurse; Cook; Kitchen Hand; Camp Coordinator and General duties volunteers the camp is a volunteer driven program. Kids from WA and SA joined the NT for this life changing experience.

This year we welcomed our first Variety Kid Sponsor, Mary Linnell from Easy Glass sponsored Aaron to attend the camp. "It's such a great program and Aaron is an awesome kid, I was happy to give a little so he could attend the Freedom Camp"

Thanks Mary, and thank you to everyone who makes this experience so special.



Forrest Parade School

The NT's newest special school, Forrest Parade School this year welcomed a new bus. Variety NT helped them to fit out the hoist which is such an important part of an accessible vehicle. Now the all the kids can go on excursions together.



Nadee

All 15 yo Nadee wanted last year was a Trike to help her with her exercise program and mobility. Nadee has primary dystonia and having the specially fitted Trike has contributed positively not only to her physical health but also her mental health.

Alice

Five year old Alice has Autism Spectrum Disorder and Global Development Delay. Her primary care giver is her Grandmother who was having difficulties taking Alice and her twin sister on outings. School activities have also been difficult. Variety NT helped the family to get a lightweight wheel chair and now Alice is a much happier child.



How you helped

Hot 100 Australia Day UTE Run

Over 200 vehicles gathered at the Hidden Valley Raceway for the start of the Hot 100 Australia Day UTE Run. Classics, hotted up, decorated up, late model, new model and anything in between were there. The route took in the northern suburbs, Palmerston and out to the Noonamah Tavern, where our favourite hotelier hosted an awesome after party. Thousands came out onto their street to wave at the utes. Our thanks to sponsors Hot

100, Noonamah Tavern, Australia Day Council NT, Shannons, Slappas Thongs and Territory Auto 4x4. An extra special recognition to the NT Government who supported the event through the NT Major Events Company Grant. \$29,780 was raised for NT kids.



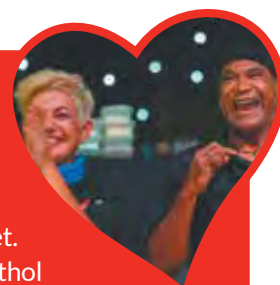
Sunday Territorian Santa Fun Run

An amazing 700 Santas turned up for the 2018 Santa Fun Run. They shook their booties in the Zumba warm up; sweated around the Darwin Waterfront and cooled down with the water slide. Airnorth donated an airfare for two to Townsville. We couldn't have done it without our media partners Sunday Territorian; Channel 7 and Hot 100. Funds raised from this event support the Variety Starfish Swim Program.



Variety of Chefs

The Black Olive's Mark Olive seduced party goers with a Seared Native Scented Beef Fillet. Local Chefs Rachael Ciesiolka, Athol Wark, David (Daisy) Taylor, Meann Duco and Miann Santos also presented their special Variety Signature Dishes. This year we welcomed Coopers as an event partner and Tim Story from Top Shelf Wines continued our long relationship with amazing wines. With culinary delights and thirst quenching beverages under our belts we rocked the night away with Bernie Bremond and the Lost & Found. Auctions and Raffles all contributed to \$23,862 raised for our accessible playground. Because every NT Kid deserves the opportunity to play.



Special Children's Christmas Party

A firm favourite on the Christmas Calendar, over 1,300 children are invited to enjoy the festivities. Children who are sick, disadvantaged or have special needs celebrate with Santa, receive gifts, food and games. Any gifts left over are distributed to regional centres across the NT and as the organiser's charity of choice, Variety received a donation of \$7,500.

How you helped

Variety Gumtrees to Gemtrees Bash 17 to 24 August 2019

The **2019 Gumtrees to Gemtrees NT Bash** was a rousing success with teams raising a whopping \$234,297.85 for Variety NT kids. 22 Bash Teams and 8 Official Cars kicked up beautiful red, dusty outback roads, visited remote schools with amazing kids, roadhouses, outback stations and so much more. We stood smack bang in the middle of Australia (Lamberts Geographical Centre), crossed the SA Border and back again, witnessed Teams host incredible morning & arvo tea stops literally in the middle of nowhere and – unfortunately – witnessed their Red Faces “talent” acts as well...

We are so lucky that the Bash Chair is always a volunteer who puts in an incredible amount of time and effort to make what is our biggest event each year a success, and this year was no different thanks to Chair Peter Bourne- who just clocked up his 19th NT Bash!

Thanks to every single Bash entrant, fundraiser, sponsor, supporter, official, overnight stop host and school who made this Bash so special.

Congratulations to all award winners including The **Top Hat** (highest fundraiser) going to the Corkettes of Alice Springs, the **Spirit of the Bash** Overall Winners- Critters of Noonamah and **Bashers' Choice** (most popular team as voted by the Bashers)- The Pink Ladies of Alice Springs. To view all the 2019 Bash Award recipients head to our website variety.org.au/bash/events/nt-2020/

2020 will mark our 29th Bash and we are soaking up the Territory once again by exploring the spectacular East Arnhem Land as we Bash from NOONAMAH TO NHULUNBUY, headed up by our volunteer Bash Chair from Team Mupp3tz, Aaron Brooks.



Thank you to our major partners

MAJOR PARTNERS



SIGNIFICANT EVENT SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS



Thank you to all our supporters

Amy Hetherington

Arafura Catering

ARB Darwin

Arjays Sales and Service

Australian Army

BCF

Beta meats

Coopers

Corroboree Park Tavern

Crocodylus Park

Crocosaurus Cove

Darwin Convention Centre

Darwin Ice Skating Centre

Darwin Let's Zumba

Darwin Runners & Walkers Club

Darwin Waterfront Corp

Darwin Wavepool

Easy Glass Services

Good Shepherd bus

Guides NT

Humpty Doo Primary School

Junior Police Rangers

Justin Quinter

Kate Worden MLA

Kennards Hire

Kevin Mobile Disco

Kleenheat Gas

Mindi Beach Surf Life Saving

Mix FM

Natasha Fyles MLA

Nemarluk School

Nestle

Ngaree AH Kit MLA

NT Emergency Services

NT Fire Department

NT News

NT Police Traffic Division

NTRS

Outer Edge Photography

Palmerston Special School

Paul Kirby MLA

Spirit of Darwin

Spotlight

Storm Cell

Tim Storey - Top End Wines

Tony Sievers MLA

Top End Washers

Trailer Boat Club

US Marine Corps

Volunteers

Volunteers are the lifeblood of this organisation. Their roles are many and varied from Board Members to Laundry hands; Carers to Fundraisers; Drivers and Cooks; and everything in between.

Together over 100 volunteers have donated over 10,000 volunteer hours.

Without our valued volunteers we would not be able to help NT Kids reach their full potential.



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