



Variety - the Children's Charity of Queensland is dedicated to empowering the lives of Queensland kids who are sick, disadvantaged or who have special needs to LIVE, LAUGH and LEARN!

In 2011, Variety was able to have a positive effect on the lives of over 55,000 Queensland children in need, providing equipment and services with a value in excess of \$2.7 million.



Jazmin's story

10 year old Jazmin has been diagnosed with Arthrogryposis, which affects one in every 17,000 births in Australia. Consequently, she can only walk independently over short distances and so spends the majority of her life in a wheelchair.

Jazmin has a hard road in front of her but Variety has brought hope in the form of chocolate brown eyes and a wagging tail – an assistance dog!

Assistance dogs are highly trained and able to undertake everyday tasks such as opening doors, pressing the button to cross the road and retrieving dropped items.

Variety has an army of supporters who are dedicated to fundraising, sourcing, training and providing the ongoing support necessary for kids like Jazmin to have a canine companion under the Variety Freedom Program. Thanks to their efforts, Jazmin will receive her new mate in 2012!

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Front cover:

Piper Johns enjoys her first ride on the Hervey Bay Liberty Swing that was opened in August 2011.

Staff

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Chief Executive Officer

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Programs Coordinator

Dan Lotz

Management Accountant

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Finance and Administration Officer

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Erin Groeneveld (E1)

Motoring Events Manager

Erin Taylor (E3)

Motoring Events Coordinator

Melanie Jefcoate

Events & Development Manager

Georgie Benham

Corporate Events Executive

Our Programs

In 2011, Variety – the Children's Charity of Queensland funded 133 grants totalling \$2,710,268 through our focused programs.

Your donations allowed us to empower children and the organisations that support them through the provision of equipment, services and experiences allowing them the opportunity to focus on their abilities, personal growth and development.



Helping children with special needs engage in community life

The Variety Freedom Program is the gift of independence, mobility, self-esteem and access to varied environments. Variety grants wheelchairs, walkers, standers, modified bikes, postural splints, orthotics, hoists and positioning systems, 12 & 24 seat Sunshine Coaches and Liberty Swings.



Helping families care for seriously ill children

The Variety Caring for Kids Program supports community health services, organisations including hospitals and specialised medical services.

Under this program Variety grants life changing equipment such as neonatal monitoring units, portable oxygen monitors, resuscitation trolleys, hospital beds and nebulisers.



Helping children to achieve their potential regardless of situation or ability

The Variety Future Program grants assistive technologies providing enhanced opportunities to communication, education and inclusion.

Advances in assistive technology are re-shaping the very concept of learning and offer flexibility to children with special needs. Variety provides equipment and services such as communication aides, iPads, specialised software, braille machines as well as camps, outings and experiences.



How the money was spent

- Caring for Kids \$141,903
- Future Kids \$1,950,912
- Freedom Kids \$617,453



How We Help

Variety - the Children's Charity is dedicated to promoting and protecting the health and well-being of children around the world. Through our network of 43 offices in 13 countries, Variety reaches into communities across the globe to offer assistance and services to children and the organisations that serve them.

Variety recognises the huge demands, both emotional and financial, that caring for a child who is sick or has special needs can make. We can't remove that burden but we do make life easier for families in difficulty by providing vital equipment to enable communication, independence, mobility, self-esteem and confidence.

Unlike most organisations who focus on a single problem or narrow area, Variety grants essential equipment to families and to organisations that cater to children that may experience disadvantage, either financial or by distance, or living with one, or multiple, physical and intellectual conditions.

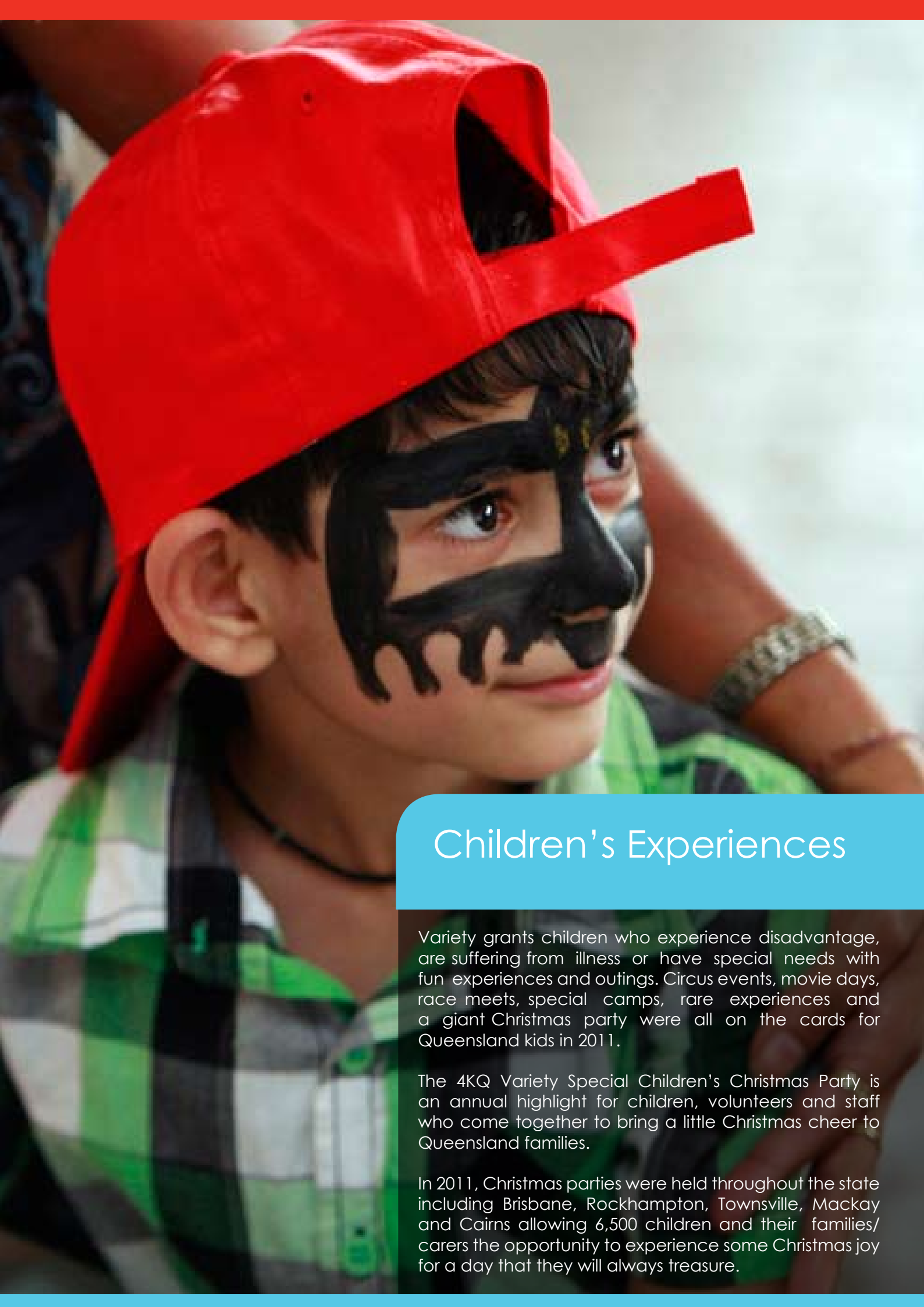
Variety works directly with families, medical teams, health advisors and community organisations to make sure the right equipment goes where it will make the greatest difference.

Appeal submissions for equipment and services are reviewed by an independent appeals committee which includes a medical practitioner. Recommendations from the committee are then made to the board ensuring the very best result for the child and family. Variety does not grant cash and is always involved in purchasing and tracking the granted equipment. Notably, Variety strives to minimise overheads and ensure maximum return, giving confidence each donation will reach Australian children in need.

Money raised from your generous donation, regular or work-place giving donation, your attendance or participation in a Variety event or activity will go directly towards continuing Variety's vital work. Variety welcomes applications from both organisations and individuals. Application forms and the Variety funding guidelines can be located on our website www.variety.org.au/qld

The need for equipment and services keeps growing but with the support of our sponsors, volunteers, event participants and fundraisers, we continue to work tirelessly to help children in need. Through Variety, people from all walks of life can experience the joy and satisfaction of helping Queensland children with a range of critical needs as diverse as the kids themselves.





Children's Experiences

Variety grants children who experience disadvantage, are suffering from illness or have special needs with fun experiences and outings. Circus events, movie days, race meets, special camps, rare experiences and a giant Christmas party were all on the cards for Queensland kids in 2011.

The 4KQ Variety Special Children's Christmas Party is an annual highlight for children, volunteers and staff who come together to bring a little Christmas cheer to Queensland families.

In 2011, Christmas parties were held throughout the state including Brisbane, Rockhampton, Townsville, Mackay and Cairns allowing 6,500 children and their families/carers the opportunity to experience some Christmas joy for a day that they will always treasure.

Summary of Financial Information

Summary of Financial Information

Year Ended 30 September 2011

Variety Queensland Inc

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Fund Raising Events Total Revenue	<u>\$2,783,252</u>	<u>\$2,630,061</u>
Other Revenue and Contributions		
Donations/Grants	2,796,031	2,218,753
Legacies/Bequests		
Interest/Income on Investments	6,325	39,047
Other Income		6,326
Total Other Revenue	<u>\$2,802,356</u>	<u>\$2,264,126</u>
Total Revenue	<u>\$5,585,608</u>	<u>\$4,894,187</u>
Expenses		
Fund Raising Events Total Expenses	<u>\$1,168,185</u>	<u>\$1,122,005</u>
Operating Expenses		
Fund Raising Overheads	1,379,268	1,216,084
Administration Overheads	435,172	362,663
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$1,814,440</u>	<u>\$1,578,748</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$2,982,626</u>	<u>\$2,700,752</u>
NET Funds Raised (Available for Distribution)	<u>\$2,602,983</u>	<u>\$2,193,435</u>
Total Charitable Grants	<u>\$2,710,268</u>	<u>\$2,500,278</u>



Holly's Story

Holly is a bright and bubbly 8 year old girl who has Down Syndrome and as a result, very delayed speech.

In 2011, Variety was able to grant Holly an iPad under the Variety Future Kids Program and the technology has made a huge difference to Holly's education and independence.

Holly can now join in classroom discussions, presentations and show & tell. For the first time ever, having an iPad has provided Holly with a voice – a reliable way to communicate effectively with her family, carers, adults and importantly her peers.



Message from the CEO

In 2010/11, Variety - the Children's Charity of Queensland performed credibly in circumstances that were very testing. Quite apart from the continuing global financial issues, the South East of Queensland experienced rain and flood conditions that had not been seen since 1974 with major flood damage and loss of life.

Despite that, the strength and resilience of Queenslanders came to the fore and with the help of our many supporters, event participants, volunteers, corporate partners and particularly our staff and Board, it is pleasing to report an increase of almost 19% in net funds available for distribution and a total of \$2,710,268 was granted to sick, disadvantaged and special needs children across the state.

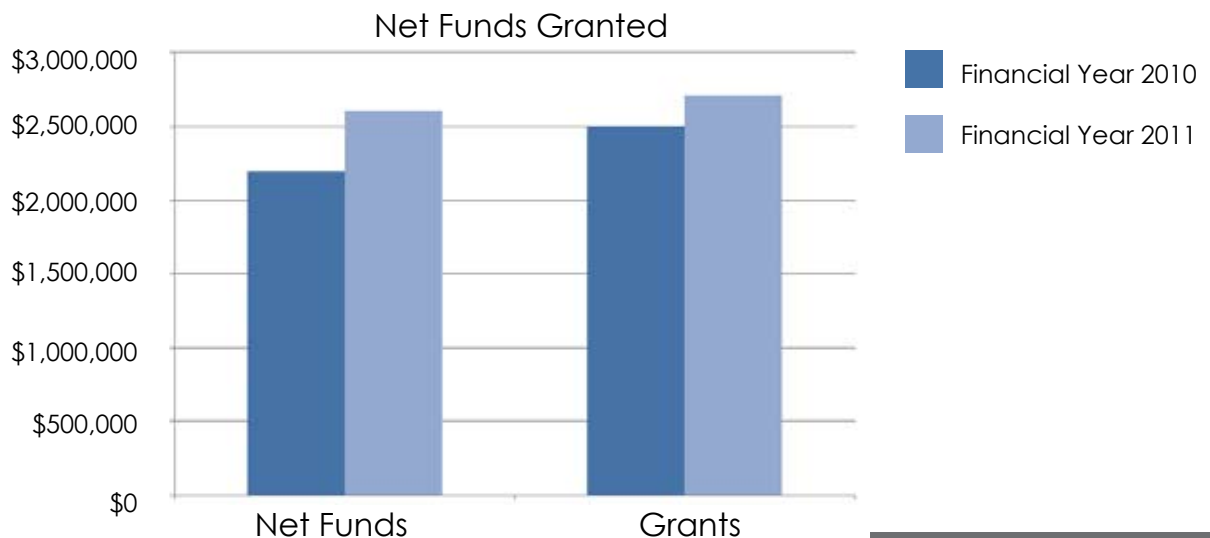
A significant and strategic investment was made by Variety during the year which was to purchase our own premises at Murarrie. Through the generosity of our Chief Barker, Ian Mackay who loaned Variety the funds, we are now financially much more secure with an appreciating asset on our Balance Sheet and very favourable interest terms.

Over recent years it has become obvious that we, together with all Variety offices across Australia, were falling behind with our communications tools. In a world where the internet and social media are expanding at an amazing rate, all Variety offices combined to invest in a new website and database system. These two investments have positioned us well for sustainable growth in future years and have already delivered increased returns from our growing database.

While our bread and butter events such as the XXXX Gold Variety Bash, the Yamaha Jet Trek, our Variety of Chefs Ball and our Santa Fun Run continue to perform well, the challenge is for us to expand into other fundraising areas to reduce our dependence on such events. Our regional development under the guidance of Carly Quinn has shown exceptional results and regional Queensland will continue to be a focal point of future activity.

Strong governance has been a feature of our mantra and we are well placed to embrace the legislative changes that are coming later in 2012.

The Board and staff are looking forward to another strong year in which we can empower even more children who are sick, disadvantaged or have special needs to live, laugh and learn.



Get Involved

All children are special but spare a thought for those less fortunate, those who live with special needs, disadvantage or illness. These are the special children Variety - the Children's Charity helps every day.

There is nothing better than seeing the absolute joy on a child's face when they are presented with their much needed equipment. We rely on the kindness and generosity of the community to make this possible.

Its easy to get involved, just contact us at the Variety Queensland office
Phone 07 3907 9300 Email info@varietyqld.org.au



Volunteer

Volunteering is the heart of Variety. By donating your time, you can see firsthand the squeals, laughs, giggles and excitement of the special children that Variety helps.

Give a few hours of your own time or gather an army of your workmates together to help — it will help make all the difference.



Fundraise

Fundraising for Variety can be a fun and rewarding experience with a range of support levels from which to choose.

Whether it be simply making a one-off donation, to taking up the challenge to participate in one of Variety's famous motoring events or treks, your support will help transform the life of a child.

Get Involved



Donate

When you give to Variety, you give directly to children in need in the Queensland community.

Your money buys practical and tangible assistance including wheelchairs, walking frames, communication devices, hospital beds, nebulisers and much more. All donations over \$2 are fully tax deductible.



Corporates

Variety - the Children's Charity offers a wide range of opportunities for businesses to get involved, ranging from individual giving programs through to multi-faceted corporate partnerships.

To learn more about some of the ways your company can work together with Variety to deliver great outcomes for your business and children in need, contact our office today.



Young Variety

Young Variety (YV) is a group of like minded 18-35 year olds with a flair for hosting fresh and exciting events in and around Brisbane.

YV is your ticket to having a good time and making a difference in the Queensland community. Contact us on yv@varietyqld.org.au

Variety -the Children's Charity of Queensland

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