



## Variety Freya Fund Guidelines

### Introduction

The Variety Freya Fund is the legacy of Freya Williamson. The Williamson family, who loved and cared for Freya for 21 years have been inspired by their own lived experiences, to provide assistance for families who have children with severe disabilities.

Variety Freya Fund provides a **one-off** relief payment of up to \$500 directly to Tasmanian families who care for a child with additional needs or a severe disability.

The Fund is designed to be as flexible as possible to help relieve individual families at a time of need or financial distress and when experiencing additional emotional and physical challenges.

Eligibility for the Variety Freya Fund is carefully thought-out, particularly respecting and upholding the dignity of those families. Recipients should be **nominated** by a GP, therapist, specialist, teacher, caseworker or allied health professional who has a direct and intimate knowledge of the family's situation and we believe they are in the best position to nominate.

Calling a family, at a time of need to let them know they have been nominated and will receive \$500 from the Variety Freya Fund, is the best gift anyone can offer.

### Eligibility and Nomination

- Variety Freya Fund benefits families and carers of children, under 18 years old, with severe disabilities or additional needs.
- The family cannot apply directly for Variety Freya Fund themselves.
- Nominations can be made by Health Professionals, Allied Health Professionals, or other professionals who are aware of the family's circumstances (such as teachers, support workers, case workers).
- The nominated family must reside in Tasmania.
- Special consideration will be given to families who have their source of income severely impacted by COVID-19 pandemic.
- Variety Tasmania has the right to contact nominated families as part of the grant assessment process to determine eligibility.
- Variety Tasmania has the right to contact the nominator as part of the assessment process.
- Applications are open all year round.
- A Variety Freya Fund grant is capped at \$500 per nomination.
- This is a **one-off** cash relief payment and can only be made directly to the nominated family.

## Decision

### Successful nominations:

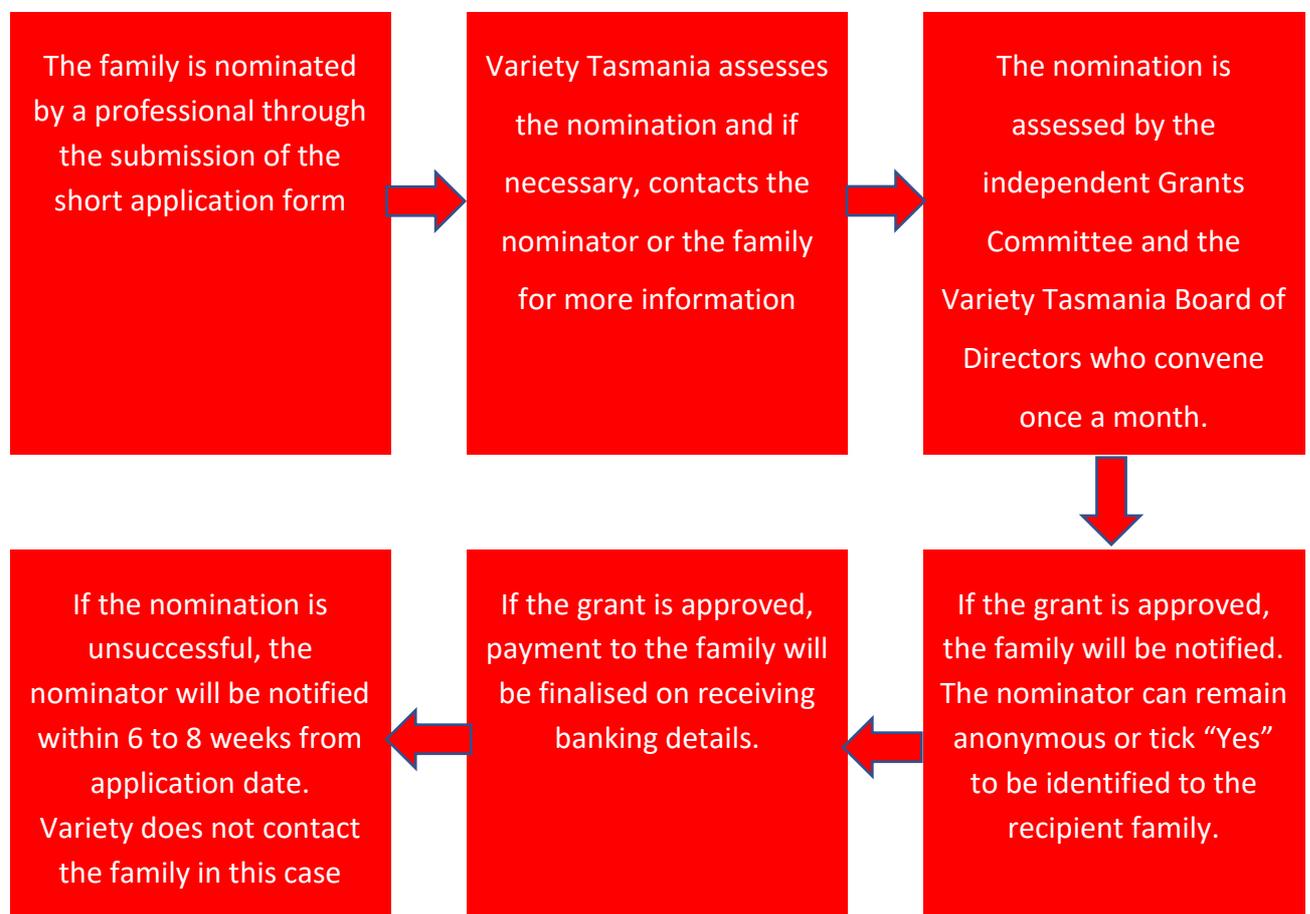
- If the grant is approved, the family will be notified by telephone and with a formal, written letter.
- The name of the nominator will be shared with the family only if the nomination was successful and the nominator opted to be identified to the recipient family.
- Families / carers have 3 months from the date of their grant approval letter to submit their bank details for the grant to be paid to them.
- Families will not be eligible for another Variety Freya Fund gift.
- Variety's decision is final.

### Unsuccessful nominations:

- If the grant nomination is not approved, an outcome letter will be emailed to the nominator approximately 4-6 weeks after their initial submission.
- Reasons pertaining to unsuccessful nominations are at the discretion of Variety Tasmania.
- Unsuccessful nominations will not impact the family's ability to apply for a different Variety Tasmania an Individual Grant or a Scholarship.

For more information please call (03) 6248 4888 or email [info@varietytas.org.au](mailto:info@varietytas.org.au)

## The Process



## Help us reach more children in need

Variety enjoys receiving news about your child's progress, well-being and milestones, particularly those who were achievements that were enabled by a Variety grant.

Allowing us to share your story enables us to illustrate the different ways that Variety can empower children to reach their potential.

Ultimately as a small Tasmanian children's charity with no government funding, we need your testimony to encourage donations from our corporate partners and community supporters to allow us to reach more children and families who would otherwise miss out.

For more information please contact us on (03) 6248 4888 or [info@varietytas.org.au](mailto:info@varietytas.org.au)

## Did You Know?

Variety is dedicated to empowering Tassie children who are sick, disadvantaged or have additional needs and who would otherwise fall through the gaps of the system.

Simply put, if there is a child living in Tasmania who needs help but can't get it from anywhere else, Variety would like to be there for them. Variety's support if available through the following:

- **Grants** – we provide individual and community grants for equipment, supplies and therapy that are not funded by other community, government or organisations. We also grant wigs for children who have lost their hair due to medical condition, such as Alopecia or cancer.
- **Scholarships** - we provide scholarships to encourage children with an existing talent and enable them to reach their full potential and to follow their dreams. Scholarships are available in the areas of Arts, Sport, Education and Business.
- **Programs** - we run programs to educate and empower children such as the Variety Creative Arts Program and Bikes4Kids. The Creative Arts Program is delivered in small groups at schools within a safe and welcoming environment, facilitated by a qualified creative arts therapist. The program offers children a creative means for self-expression that supports their emotional wellbeing and development.
- **Experiences** - we hold events that bring joy to children and their families. Such as Quiet Santa which provides the opportunity for a photo with Santa, in quiet low stimulus and supported environment suitable for children with additional needs.

You can find out more here: <https://www.variety.org.au/tas/grants/>