

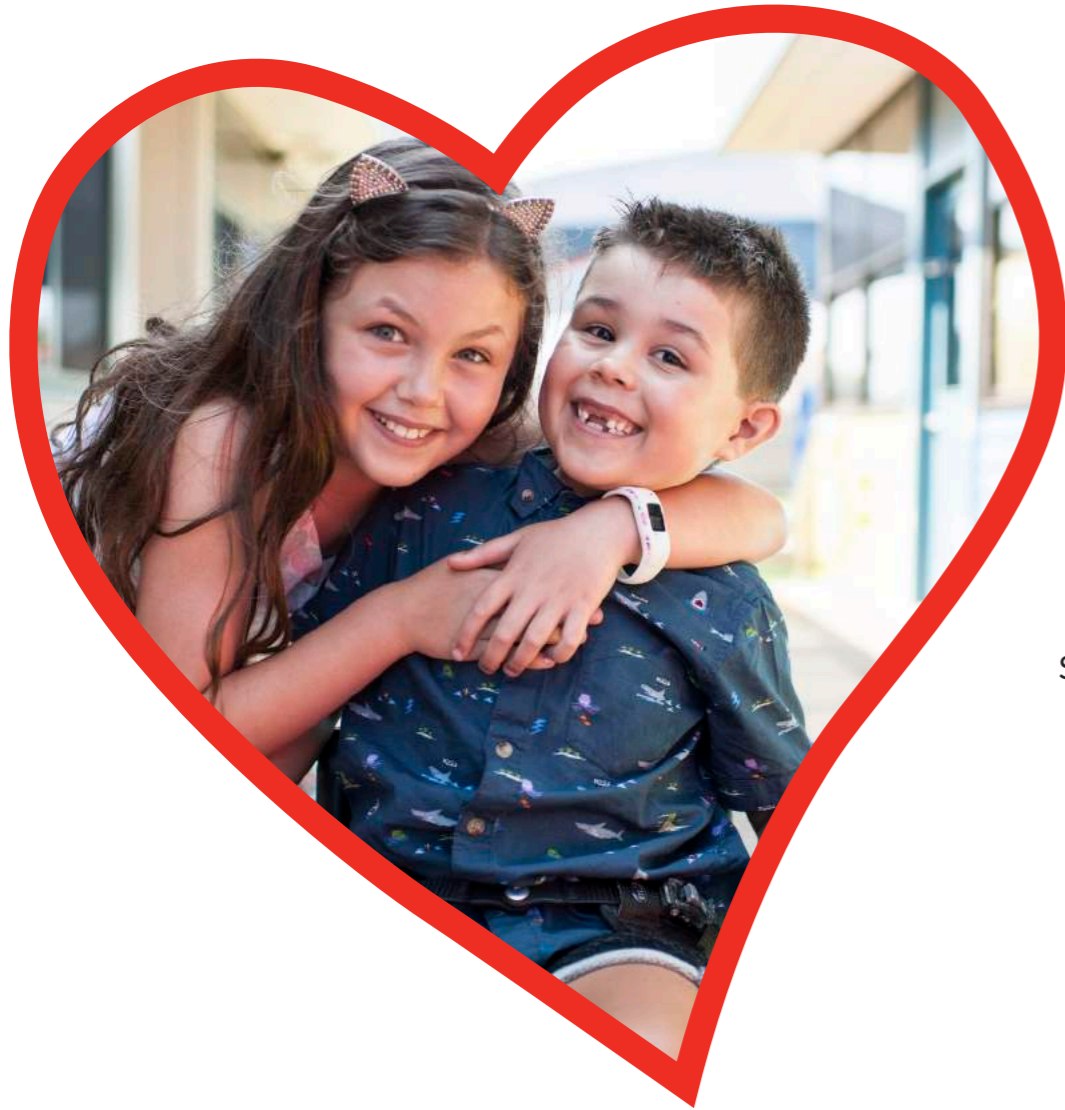


# Impact Report 2018/19

Variety – the Children’s Charity of WA



**variety**  
the children's charity



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**Anthony Begley**  
Chief Barker

It is with great pride that I present the 2019 Impact Report – my first as Chief Barker for Variety - the Children's Charity of Western Australia.

It has been more than 20 years since I became involved with Variety, and while the organisation has seen much change in this time, the passion shared by our community of supporters and our commitment to changing the lives of WA kids in need has only grown stronger.

On behalf of the Board, I extend my heartfelt thanks to every Member, volunteer, event participant, donor and sponsor for your generous support. Together, we helped give a fair go to more than 8,000 Western Australian kids who live with disability, serious illness or disadvantage, by providing much needed equipment, programs, scholarships and special experiences in 2019.

But there is still much to be done, and many children are missing out on our support. As we look toward our 40th anniversary in 2020, it is a time not only to celebrate the thousands of children's lives we have been able to impact over the years, but to challenge ourselves to continue to meet the 'unmet' need and help more WA kids who are relying on us for support.



**Michael Smith**  
Patron

What do we hope for our children?

Our answer, after much reflection, is healthy, happy and useful.

If we could give two gifts to our children, it would surely be good health and happiness, and once that is achieved to be useful to others.

Many find enduring happiness to be elusive. Even working out what makes you happy at any stage of life can be hard. In what has been a very blessed and joyful life, the source of my happiness has been family, friends, personal growth, music, sport, and helping people.

Being useful is both an obligation and a source of joy, and it is a lot easier to be useful if we are first happy.

The children we help through Variety have many challenges to these simple notions, often starting with health issues and other forms of disadvantage. Even so, they show inspiring resilience.

Our Variety volunteers and staff have helped lift these beautiful souls and in so doing have been useful in the most powerful way.

Thank you.



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

So we help kids with these challenges:



Sickness



Disadvantage



Disability



By delivering support to WA kids in the following ways...

### GRANTS

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



Individual Grants



Community Grants

### PROGRAMS

We run programs to educate and empower kids in need.



### SCHOLARSHIPS

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



### KIDS EVENTS

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



To create lasting impact around Australia

And a better life for the kids of WA

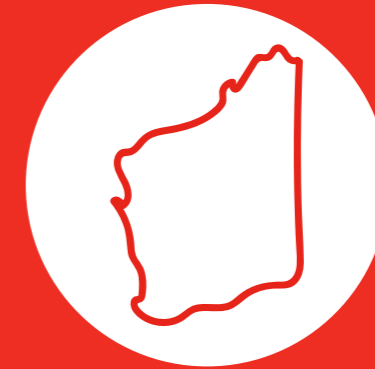


**85,486**

Number of Aussie kids impacted by Variety this year

**8,012**

kids directly supported in WA



**\$563,976\***

granted to help kids in need



**6,382**

kids received a special gift from Variety WA



**66**

grants provided to kids



**29**

Variety Heart Scholarships awarded

**561**

kids attended the Variety Kids Xmas Party

**12 families**

supported through Variety Motor Mouth Camp

**9**

remote schools supported by motoring event visits

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



### Ty'Zarlie

7-year-old Ty'Zarlie loves to be outdoors and has the best time when being physically active. Ty'Zarlie has Autism, Global Development Delay and is unable to speak, so he sometimes struggles to play with other kids at the playground. Ty'Zarlie is the eldest of 3 and his little brother Rhizahn also has Autism, so playtime can be a challenge for the family. Variety WA granted Ty'Zarlie and his siblings a special Vuly playset to help meet their physical and sensory processing needs, and his parents say it's made a world of difference.

"We are getting more social interactions with our boys and feeling more connected. It has been a very emotional and massive weight off our family's shoulders," said Ty'Zarlie's mum.

### Ebony

Ebony has Rhett Syndrome, a neurological degenerative disorder that causes limited mobility, seizures and pain on a daily basis, but she still enjoys the soothing effects of a nice bath. Variety Midwest granted Ebony a walk-in bath to help her bathe independently, and the pumps can also massage her legs to stimulate her muscles and prevent seizures.

"It means that Ebony will be able to sit, and have a bath, and bathe for hours, as she likes to do," said Ebony's Mum.



### Abhijoy

Abhijoy is a bright, energetic sixteen year-old who took part in our 2019 Teen Motor Mouth Day in April to improve his communication skills, with the help of volunteer Speech Therapists and fun group activities. Abhijoy is very social and was delighted to meet so many new people and make some great new friends, which is something he really enjoys and doesn't always get the chance to do. Abhijoy's Mum noticed lasting improvements in Abhijoy's communication skills.

"It was a beautiful experience for our whole family," she said. "We simply cannot thank you enough. Please accept our heartfelt gratitude and we remain forever indebted to you for the great work you are doing."

### Thomas

Thomas faces more challenges than most young musicians, including spinal dysrhythmia, spasticity and anxiety. His conditions make it more difficult for him to enjoy playing, but Thomas wouldn't trade his musical gift for the world!

Thomas received his very own saxophone and private lessons at WAAPA through his Variety Heart Scholarship, so he could practice whenever he liked and develop his confidence. Thomas is now able to get more serious about playing for his career, and wants to inspire other children living with disability to pick up musical instruments, too.



## Meet some of the kids you helped this year...



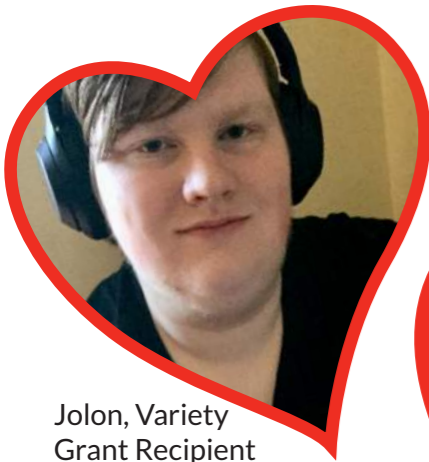
Alex, Variety Teen Motor Mouth Day Participant



Jodie, Variety Choir Member



Jasper, Variety Heart Scholarship Recipient



Jolon, Variety Grant Recipient



Aralie, Variety Motor Mouth Camp Participant



Tegan, Variety Heart Scholarship Recipient

## Variety Motor Mouth Camp



Since 2011, the Variety Motor Mouth Program has helped children who have limited speech and rely on non-verbal aids to communicate through fun, activity-based learning at an overnight camp for kids and day camp for teens. The program assists both children and their parents to develop their skills and confidence in using alternative communication devices to communicate in everyday life.

The 4-day Motor Mouth Camp was jam-packed with interactive workshops, fun activities and entertainment - all creating opportunities for campers to practice their communication skills. 12 families had the opportunity to learn from experts, as well as connect with families who have similar experiences to their own. We also held a Variety Teen Motor Mouth Day where kids practiced their communication skills in a social setting at The Simulation Centre.

Thanks to the generous support of Lotterywest and program sponsor P&N Bank, as well as the committee and volunteers, for helping these kids find their voice.



## Variety Choir

The Variety Choir continued to entertain and inspire audiences in 2019. Comprising a diverse range of young people of all abilities and backgrounds, the Choir unites members using music as a foundation for building performance skills, self-confidence, friendship and community participation. Now rehearsing at the prestigious WAAPA Music Auditorium and under the leadership of new Choir Director, Gemma Luxton, the Variety Choir wowed a crowd of 30,000 people during their performance with WASO at the 2019 Lotterywest Christmas Symphony, as well as the WA Day 2019 Festival and the Night at the Museum gala to name a few!

## Variety Kids Xmas Party

The Variety Kids Xmas Party brought joy and delight to over five hundred WA children, as well as their parents and carers on Sunday 2nd December 2018. Claremont Showground was jam packed with rides and amusements, roving characters, entertainment, craft, face painting, baby animals and more, as families were treated to a much-needed break and a chance for kids to simply enjoy being kids. Santa and his Variety helpers were on hand with a present for every child, making the day even more special. Proudly supported by the Stan Perron Charitable Foundation and Lotterywest.



*"I just wanted to thank you so much for organising the Christmas party and inviting our family. I haven't seen so much joy in my kids in a long time. It was wonderful and made them feel really special. We are so grateful for the invite."*

- Parent of Kids Xmas Party attendees

## Variety Heart Scholarships

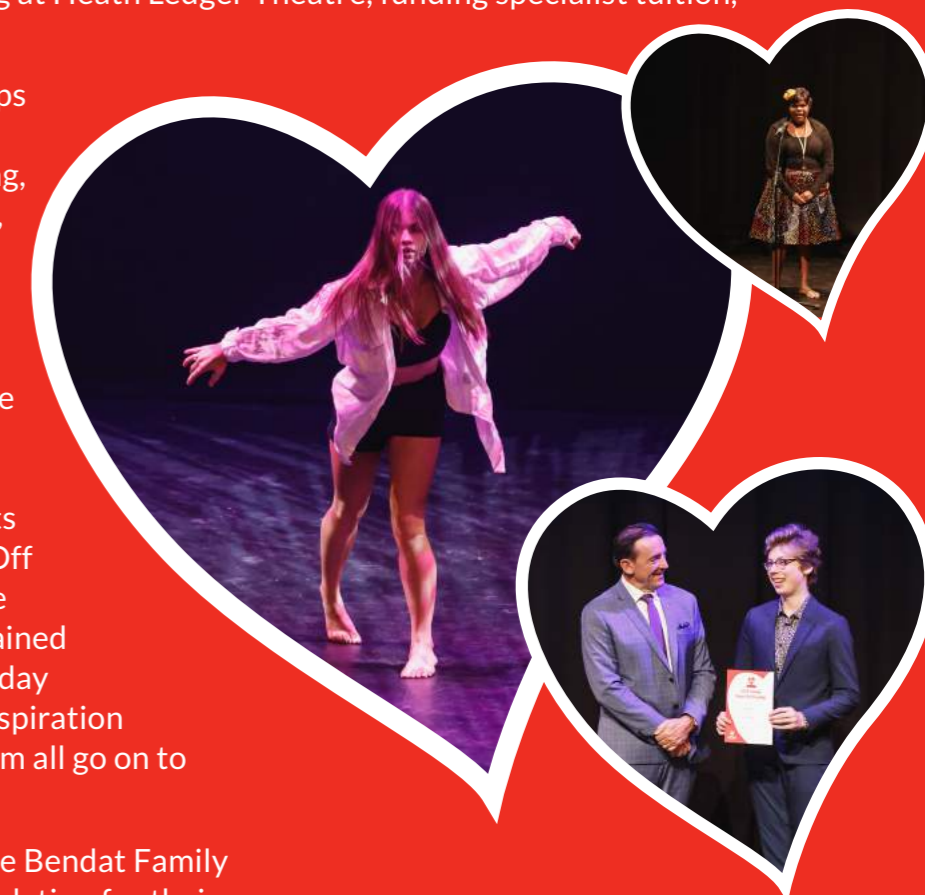
Variety Heart Scholarships recognise the inspirational talents of WA kids who are sick, disadvantaged or living with disability, and help them reach their full potential in their chosen field of arts, sport or academia (extra-curricular).

Variety WA presented \$92,000 worth of scholarships to 29 deserving kids at the 2019 Variety Heart Scholarships Award Evening at Heath Ledger Theatre, funding specialist tuition, equipment and related expenses.

This year, Variety WA's scholarships helped WA kids to fulfill diverse passions in dance, motocross riding, singing, martial arts, cheerleading, wheelchair basketball, swimming, musical theatre and even horse-riding.

The results from this program have been fantastic with many children competing at a state, national and international level, but the benefits for the children don't stop there. Off the field or stage, children are able to use the confidence they have gained through their scholarship in everyday activities. They really are a true inspiration and we look forward to seeing them all go on to achieve great things.

A special heartfelt thank you to the Bendat Family Foundation and the Whately Foundation for their ongoing contribution to Variety Heart Scholarships.



# How you helped



15

Variety fundraising events\*



271

volunteers

## Variety Toy Bank

For 25 years, Variety Toy Bank has fundraised and collected new toys to donate to kids in women's refuges across the state, so that each child can be given a special toy of their own when they first arrive.

The volunteer committee has made an outstanding effort to deliver 3 iconic fundraising events, raising over \$32,000 net and over 650 toys in 2018/19.

For the first time ever, guests were also given the opportunity to donate an experience instead of a toy (such as a trip to the zoo or Adventure World) by purchasing the experience online.



## Volunteers

Every year, hundreds of volunteers give up their time and energy to help us make a difference to WA kids.

It's thanks to our diverse pool of volunteers that we are able to raise the money, spread the word and deliver much-needed help to so many WA children every single year.

A huge thank you to the 271 volunteers who supported Variety WA in 2018/19.



## Silence the CEO

Variety Silence the CEO sees leaders across WA give up their voice and live a day in the life of a child who can't speak to raise funds and awareness.

This year, leaders from industries as diverse as Finance, Architecture and Education took on the challenge, raising over \$11,000 and invaluable awareness for kids who rely on alternative communication devices to communicate.



# How you helped

## Variety Bash

The 2019 Variety Bash took 29 pre-1993 cars and their playfully themed occupants to remote corners of the Gascoyne & Murchison regions, taking on diverse off-road tracks and bringing joy to WA kids in isolated communities. The Bash visited three schools en route, providing grants worth up to \$12,000 to revitalise school facilities, along with new sporting equipment and toys to help local kids to live, laugh and learn. Thanks to the incredible fundraising efforts of the participants and the generous support of the volunteer officials, partners and all who made this event possible, the Bash raised \$564,000 to help WA kids who are sick, disadvantaged and living with disability.



## Variety Creative Car Cruise

23 cars (51 participants) took to the road in March, cruising Perth City over 4 days and raising over \$115,000 for WA kids on the Variety Creative Car Cruise. Highlights included special access to Kwinana Motorplex, sunset movies at Joondalup Resort before the final night at Fremantle Prison with a jail house rock dinner. Thanks to all of our Cruisers for a big year of fundraising.



## Variety 4WD Adventure

48 lucky participants took on some of WA's best off-road tracks from Broome to the northern-most tip of the Dampier Peninsula on the 2019 Variety 4WD Adventure. The trip offered unique cultural experiences, with guided access to private off-road tracks on sacred Aboriginal land. Participants visited local schools, entertaining the kids and providing grants of up to \$7,000. A big thank you to all of our participants and supporters for raising over \$215,000.





# How you helped

## Trust & Foundations

Trusts & Foundations continued to provide vital support in 2019. Lotterywest ensured the continued success of the Variety Choir, Variety Motor Mouth Camp and the Variety Kids Xmas Party. The Stan Perron Charitable Foundation supported the Variety Kids Xmas Party again and the Bendat Family Foundation contributed to the Variety Heart Scholarship program.



## Corporate Partnerships

Variety WA has been founded on the generous contributions of our business and philanthropic community. Our partners and their ongoing commitment creates a sustainable foundation for Variety WA, which supports our vision and underpins our planning. We sincerely appreciate the relationships forged and the immense support that we receive from our partners; new and long-established.



## Variety Hair with Heart

Who knew that your hair had the power to change lives?

This year, we received 742 pony tails, and 185 of these people fundraised prior to taking the chop. Between fundraising and the sale of the hair, Variety WA received over \$120,000 net in donations as a result of the national Hair with Heart campaign.

10 year old Baird from Onslow (right) is just one of our budding 'Hair with Heart' superheroes. After growing his trademark mullet for over 3.5 years, he decided to cut it off to be used as a wig for a child who has lost their hair due to illness. Being somewhat of a celebrity in his local neighbourhood with his unconventional style, 'selfie magnet' Baird managed to raise over \$3,000 from phone-wielding fanatics by charging them \$5 a snap.



# How you helped

## Variety Goldfields

The Kalgoorlie team held another sell-out KBS Bonfire night, raising over \$25,000, as well as their annual Geoff Kemp Memorial Golf Day and a bounty of other fundraising initiatives. 2018/19 saw Variety Goldfields add another 2 events to their fundraising calendar, including the Red Dust Revival and a pop-up oasis bar at the Kalgoorlie Desert Race. A massive thank you to this incredible fundraising powerhouse for their tireless efforts.



## Variety Midwest

Over \$73,000 net was raised by Variety Midwest in 2018/19 through the Variety Royal Gala, Ladies Luncheon and Melbourne Cup Sweep, with ongoing support and involvement from the wider Geraldton community. With this support, Variety Midwest provided grants of up to \$9,000, as well as a fun-filled Xmas Party for 200+ disadvantaged kids and their families. Thank you to the committee, president and all involved for making this possible.

## Community Fundraising

Fundraising is not a solo endeavour. Each and every one of our supporters make an important contribution by taking the lead and fundraising in their own way, in their own local areas. We received \$84,789 this year from fundraisers who did just that.

Over \$2,500 was received from the all-male a cappella group, 'The Newby Blues' as a result of their sell-out charity musical.

One of our keen individual supporters reached a personal goal by participating in the Perth Running Festival and collected donations of over \$5,000.

Its these kinds of DIY fundraisers that have made it possible to achieve such a fantastic collective contribution.



## Other Regions

We are lucky at Variety to have active supporters all over the state. We have strong support in the South West region (including Peel) and the Pilbara. We hope to have branches established in these regions within the next financial year.

# Thank you to all our supporters

# Thank you to all our supporters

## PRINCIPAL PARTNER



## MAJOR PARTNERS



## KEY PARTNERS

LINNEYS



Winning appliances

## SUPPORTING PARTNERS



VIVA!



## NATIONAL PARTNERS



## MEDIA PARTNERS



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# Thank you to all our supporters

## KEY SUPPORTERS

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Modec  
Civmec  
BHP Petroleum  
Turner and Townsend  
Whately Foundation  
Carisbrook Enterprises  
Capricorn  
Women's Council

## EVENT SUPPORTERS

Osborne Park Smash Repairs  
89 Garage Door Specialists  
Dynamic Maintenance Services  
Westralian Diamond Drillers  
Midland 4WD Centre  
Forester Estate  
Malaga Print and Copy  
PAV Events  
Stage and Studio  
Totally Workwear  
Rockpool Foundation  
Robson Brothers 4WD  
Kailis  
Halo Diamonds  
Great Off Road Adventures  
Viviens Model Agency

## WA BOARD, COMMITTEES AND REGIONS

Kids Support Committee  
Finance, Operations, Regions, Risk and Membership Committee  
Fundraising, Events and Marketing Committee  
Variety Creative Car Cruise Committee  
Variety Bash Committee  
Variety Toy Bank Committee  
Variety Ball Committee  
Variety Motor Mouth Committee  
Variety Midwest  
Variety Goldfields  
Variety Peel



# What's Next

You've made an incredible impact on the lives of kids who are sick, disadvantaged or living with disability - thank you!

In the coming year we want to reach more kids, families and organisations by broadening our reach across Western Australia. We want to raise more funds so that we can facilitate more grants and change even more lives in 2020.

For us, this means using our existing partnerships and forging new ones to spread the word about Variety, diversifying our income streams and taking on every single opportunity that comes our way. We're going to work harder, smarter and most importantly, we're going to work together to create change. We want to make sure every child achieves their full potential, regardless of ability or background.



## Include Variety in your Will

In 2018-2019, Variety WA received generous donations from the Estate of B.J. Robinson and the Estate of L. Slater. In leaving a gift in their Wills to Variety, Mr Robinson and Mrs Slater have left lasting legacies to help WA kids who are sick, disadvantaged or living with disability get a fair go and reach their full potential. We extend our heartfelt thanks and kind wishes to their families.

By including a gift to Variety in your Will, you can make a huge impact on the lives of kids in need, now and into the future.

### It will change lives

Your gift will play a crucial role in ensuring Variety can continue to support kids when their families turn to us for help.

### It creates a legacy

Leaving a gift in your Will is one of the most effective and long-lasting ways you can impact a cause that is close to your heart. You will make a lasting difference that will be felt long into the future.

### It's easy

It doesn't take long to make a difference. A simple Will can take as little as one hour to do.

**For more information or to speak to someone about your intentions, please contact us today on (08) 9355 3655.**



# Helping WA kids who are sick, disadvantaged or living with disability to live, laugh and learn



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