



Variety's "My Bike" Program Overview:

What is Variety?

- Variety the Children's Charity provides children with disabilities unique programs, experiences, and equipment, so they may live life to the fullest.

What is Variety's "My Bike" Program?

- Variety's "My Bike" Program is an initiative to provide children with disabilities who are eligible with adaptive bicycles that are individually customized, so they may have the freedom of a bike and the joy of riding alongside friends and family.

When did it begin?

- Variety's "My Bike" Program kicked off in Western Pennsylvania on November 5, 2012. Since that kickoff, more than 850 adaptive bikes have been presented to kids with disabilities.

Who is eligible for an adaptive bike?

- Variety's "My Bike" Program serves children and youth who have a disability that reside in Variety's 39 county service area; are between 4 and 21 years of age; meet the income guidelines; as well as the other eligibility requirements outlined in the application.
- Income Guidelines: An applicant's household income must meet the program's income guidelines that includes: 2 household members (below \$63,720); 3 household members (below \$80,360); 4 household members (below \$97,000); 5 household members (below \$113,640); 6 household members (below \$130,280); 7 household members (below \$146,920); 8 household members (below \$163,560).
- Service Area: Variety serves 22 **Western Pa. counties**: Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Bedford, Blair, Butler, Cambria, Centre, Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Fayette, Greene, Huntington, Indiana, Lawrence, Mercer, Somerset, Venango, Warren, Washington, and Westmoreland; **7 Central Pa. counties**: **Cumberland, Dauphin, Juniata, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, and York**; and 10 **West Virginia counties**: Barbour, Doddridge, Harrison, Marion, Marshall, Monongalia, Ohio, Preston, Taylor, and Wetzel.

How does someone apply for Variety's "My Bike" Program?

- An application can be obtained through Variety's website <http://www.varietypittsburgh.org/MyBikeProgram.asp>, or by calling the Variety Main Office at 724-933-0460 (*Western Pa. applicants*) or the Variety West Virginia Office at 304-216-0203 (*West Virginia applicants*).

What have these adaptive bikes meant to the children?

- For a child with a disability who struggles to skip, run, and even walk, an adaptive bicycle can be life changing - to **no longer be left out or left behind**. "**When I got on my bike for the first time, I was like, 'Oh my gosh, this is so amazing'.**" – Isiah, a bike recipient.

What have these adaptive bikes meant to the parents?

- The bikes enable children with disabilities to ride with their siblings, as well as their parents, and have allowed the whole family to have fun together (as we have heard repeatedly from parents). "**I'm not sure that I'll ever get used to the surge of joy that I feel when James is on his bike.**" - Mary, mother of James.

How much does it cost to sponsor one adaptive bike & how can someone donate?

- The cost to sponsor one adaptive bike is \$1,800. **Donations for Variety's "My Bike" Program can also be designated to a specific county to impact children in your own community.** Donations can be given online, or through U.S. Mail with a check being made out to "Variety" and designated to "**My Bike**" (*please note the county on your donation if applicable*).

VARIETY IS SEEKING TO IDENTIFY 150 ELIGIBLE CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES FOR ITS “MY BIKE” PROGRAM.

**PLEASE HELP SPREAD THE WORD TODAY,
SO THAT NO ELIGIBLE CHILD MISSES OUT ON A BIKE.**

***“Changing the lives of children with disabilities...
one bike, one child, one family at a time.”***



Brian is pictured above with his family before riding in the 2014 Pittsburgh Labor Day Parade with a number of other kids.

**"We had dreamed about something like this for our son.
We didn't know that it was even accessible to us..."**

**For us to see him do something that we didn't think he
would ever get to do has just been so awesome,"**

-Angie, mother of Brian.

