



Variety's "My Voice" 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 Voice" Program?

- Variety's "My Voice" Program provides communication devices (i.e. an iPad) to eligible children with a communication disorder to give them a voice at all times. "My Voice" enables children to express their thoughts, feelings, wants, and needs.

When did it begin?

- Variety's "My Voice" Program was officially unveiled in Western Pennsylvania on November 14, 2014. Currently, the funds are specific to iPad communication devices.

Who is eligible for a communication device?

- Variety's "My Voice" Program serves children and youth who have a communication disorder that reside in Variety's 22 county service area in Western Pa.; are between 4 and 21 years of age; and can meet the eligibility guidelines outlined in the application.
- Variety serves the following 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.
- Please note – a letter of medical justification must be written by a Speech Language Pathologist.

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

- An application can be obtained through Variety's website <http://www.varietypittsburgh.org/ApplyforaDevice.asp>, or by calling the Variety Office at 724-933-0460.

What has a communication meant to Variety families so far?

- Before receiving her iPad, Kelley, mother of Trinity shared how the communication device would transform her family's life by saying,

"Her teacher said that Trinity is telling stories at school with the iPad there. I have never heard her tell a story before. I would love to hear my daughter tell me a story."

How much does it cost to sponsor one communication device?

- The cost to sponsor one communication device (i.e. an iPad with recommended communication applications) is \$1,200. **Donations for Variety's "My Voice" Program can also be designated to a specific county to impact children in your own community.**

How can someone donate to Variety's "My Voice" Program?

- Donations can be given online, or through U.S. Mail with a check being made out to "Variety the Children's Charity" and designated to "My Voice".

VARIETY IS SEEKING TO IDENTIFY 100 ELIGIBLE CHILDREN WITH A COMMUNICATION DISORDER FOR ITS “MY VOICE” PROGRAM.

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

“Giving children a voice at all times.”



Above: Johnny with his dad, John, and mom, Sue, during his bike presentation (left) and communication device presentation (right).

Johnny, age 9, received his lime green adaptive bike in December 2012 and his communication device (i.e. an iPad) in March 2015.

His mother, Sue, said, “Johnny is non-verbal. He can’t vocalize, and it was heart breaking until we received his iPad through the “My Voice” Program. Now, he can tell us what he wants. The communication device is his voice... the feelings in his heart and thoughts in his head can come out. Johnny has a voice... it just needs to come out differently.”

