



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Variety – the Children’s Charity Awards Over \$1.8M to
Children’s Charities Throughout Iowa**

DES MOINES, IA – (Sept. 17, 2019) -- Variety - the Children’s Charity announced today that over \$1.8M in grants were awarded to 59 Iowa children’s charities. Variety is dedicated to improving the lives of underprivileged, at-risk and special needs children throughout Iowa. Funding is provided to programs and initiatives that directly impact the well-being of children in our state. Funds are raised through private, corporate donations and grants funds on an annual basis. This year, Variety received 112 applications requesting over \$5M in support.

“We are pleased to be able to collaborate with and support these Iowa organizations to improve the lives of Iowa’s children,” said Michael Crowley, past-chair of Variety – the Children’s Charity of Iowa’s Board of Directors. “Through strategic partnerships with our community-based organization, we can do more to provide programs for children, so they can do what they do best to support families with special needs children.”

Variety grants provide funds for capital projects, essential medical equipment, shelters, inclusive playground, minivans and special children’s programs. Organizations that receive Variety grants range in size and focus, but all share the goal of bettering the lives of children in Iowa.

“We’re grateful for Iowa’s generous support from our individual and corporate donors. Variety is committed to positively impacting children throughout the state of Iowa,” said Sheri McMichael, Executive Director of Variety- the Children’s Charity. “These grant awards provide essential operating and program support to important partners in Variety’s commitment to enrich the lives of underprivileged and special needs children throughout Iowa.”

The grant-making process was advised by a panel of community board members and volunteers who reviewed applications and had the opportunity to ask questions during the applicants’ in-person presentations. Funding priority was given to programs that serve the greatest needs and help the greatest number of community members. Grants are awarded for the period September 2019 - September 2020. See attached list of grant recipients and their locations.

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ABOUT VARIETY – THE CHILDREN’S CHARITY OF IOWA

Variety is dedicated to improving the lives of underprivileged, at-risk and special needs children throughout Iowa. Funding is provided to programs and initiatives that directly impact the well-being of

children in our community. For more information on how you can be a part of our work, please visit www.varietyiowa.com.

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