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MEDIA CONTACT:

Sheri McMichael, Executive Director

515-243-4660

sheri@varietyiowa.com

Variety – the Children’s Charity awards over \$1.9 million to children’s initiatives throughout Iowa

DES MOINES, Iowa (Sept. 16, 2020) – Over \$1.9 million has been awarded by Variety – the Children’s Charity to 71 children’s organizations throughout the state of Iowa. In addition, Variety provided 62 specialized mobility pieces, over 500 traditional bikes, helmets and locks, as well as Variety’s third inclusive playground at Riverview Park in Des Moines. This is all part of Variety’s mission to improve the lives of children who are underprivileged, at-risk, critically ill or living with special needs.

This year, Variety received 92 grant applications from children’s organizations requesting over \$4 million in support.

"We recognize that this year more than ever, our children's charities throughout the great state of Iowa, are in need," said Susan Hatten, past chair of Variety – the Children’s Charity’s Board of Directors. "We are grateful to be a part of the conversation, and ultimately, the impact provided throughout the State, through our Variety funds."

Variety grants provide funding for capital projects, essential medical equipment, shelters, inclusive playgrounds, Variety vans and more. Organizations that receive Variety grants range in size and focus, but all share the goal of bettering the lives of children in Iowa.

"Variety is committed to positively impacting children throughout Iowa. We are very grateful for the generous support from our individual and corporate donors," said Sheri McMichael, executive director of Variety – the Children’s Charity. "These grant awards provide equipment and essential program support to organizations across the State, helping children reach their full potential."

The grant-making process is advised by a panel of community board members and volunteers who review applications from each organization. Funding priority is given to programs that serve the greatest needs and help the greatest number of children. See attached for a full 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 children who are underprivileged, at-risk, critically ill and living with special needs 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.