

## “My Voice” Program Overview:

### What is Variety the Children’s Charity?

- Variety – the Children’s Charity provides children with disabilities unique programs, experiences, and equipment, so they may live life to the fullest and not be left out, left behind, or excluded.

### What is Variety’s “My Voice” Program?

- Variety’s “My Voice” Program provides a communication device (currently an iPad with a prescribed communication app) to eligible children with a communication disorder to give them a voice at all times – enabling kids to express their thoughts, feelings, wants, and needs.

### When did it begin?

- Variety’s “My Voice” Program was officially unveiled in Pennsylvania on November 14, 2014.

### Who is eligible for a communication device?

- Variety’s “My Voice” Program serves children and youth who have a documented communication disorder; reside in Variety’s 54 county service area in Pennsylvania and West Virginia; are 4 through 21 years of age; and can meet the eligibility guidelines outlined in the application.
- **Income Guidelines:** An applicant’s household income must meet the program’s income guidelines that include: 2 household members (below \$81,200); 3 household members (below \$102,100); 4 household members (below \$123,000); 5 household members (below \$143,900); 6 household members (below \$164,800); 7 household members (below \$185,700); 8 household members (below \$206,600). *As information, families who have a child with disabilities typically experience greater expenses due to medical costs, therapy appointments, adaptive equipment, medications, and a variety of other needs or circumstances.*
- Variety serves the following **42 counties in Pennsylvania:** Adams, Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Bedford, Blair, Butler, Cambria, Cameron, Centre, Clarion, Clearfield, Clinton, Crawford, Cumberland, Dauphin, Elk, Erie, Fayette, Forest, Franklin, Fulton, Greene, Huntingdon, Indiana, Jefferson, Juniata, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Mifflin, Northumberland, Perry, Potter, Snyder, Somerset, Union, Venango, Warren, Washington, and Westmoreland, and York; and **12 counties in West Virginia:** Barbour, Brooke, Doddridge, Hancock, Harrison, Marion, Marshall, Monongalia, Ohio, Preston, Taylor, and Wetzell.
- Please note – a letter of medical justification must be written by a Speech Language Pathologist (see application for more details).

### How does someone apply for Variety’s “My Voice” Program?

- An application can be obtained through Variety’s website [www.varietypittsburgh.org/my-voice/overview](http://www.varietypittsburgh.org/my-voice/overview), or by calling the Variety Office at 724-933-0460.

### What has a communication meant to Variety families so far?

- Before receiving his device, Jennifer, mother of Cooper shared how the communication device would impact their entire family,

**"As his mother it breaks my heart that he may need something, and I just don't know what it is, or maybe he's not feeling well, but I can't see a tummy ache or headache. We feel that this communication device will help bridge that gap and enrich Cooper's, as well as our family life."**

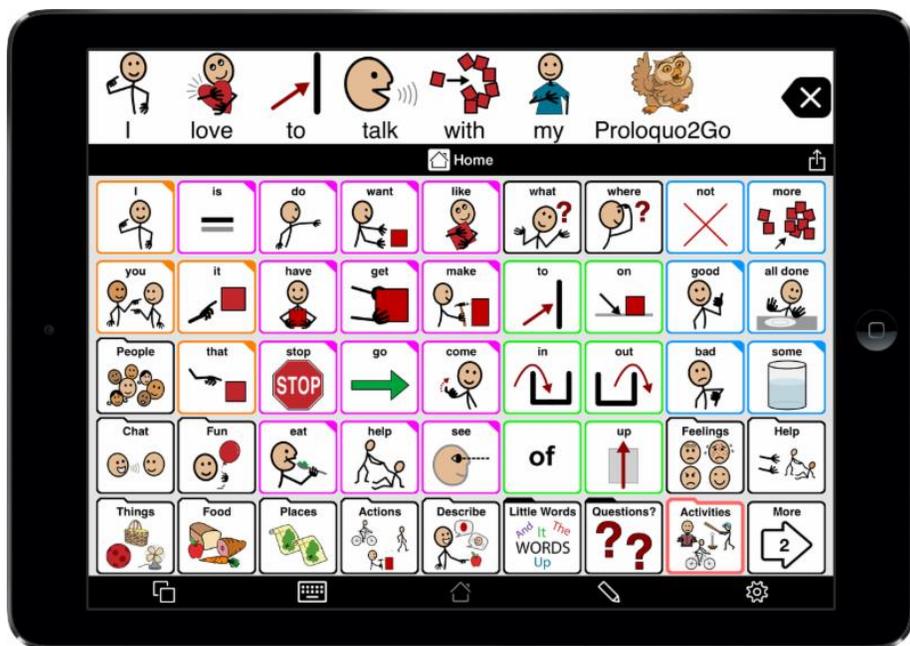
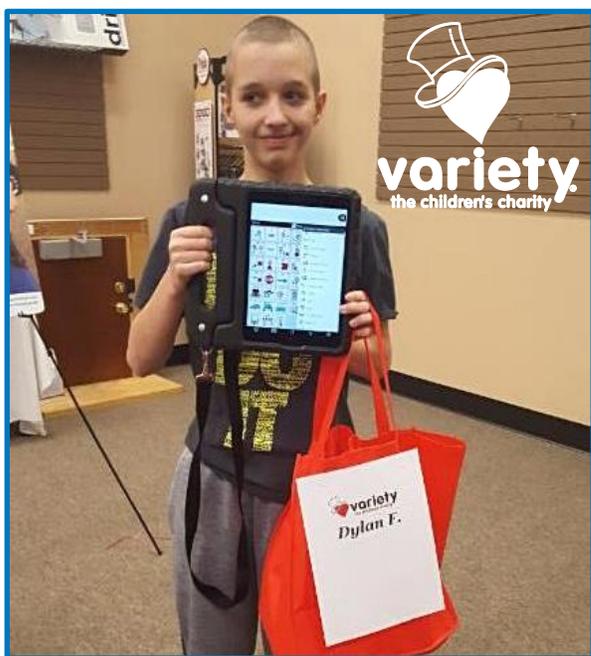
### How can someone donate to Variety’s “My Voice” Program?

- 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”. The cost to sponsor one communication device (i.e. an iPad with a prescribed communication app) is **\$1,200**.

# VARIETY IS SEEKING TO IDENTIFY 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.”



Dylan is pictured above holding his new communication device (left) and a photo of his communication app, Proloquo2go (right).

"Thank you again for all that you're doing for the students here in our building. **They are interacting with peers / staff, demonstrating progress towards academics, and their personality is shining!** Specifically, Dylan, who just received his iPad, is our student of the month for using the device purposefully, showing responsibility, and peer tutoring another student with the same iPad / communication app."

-Sharon, Dylan's speech language pathologist

