VOICE
OF
VARIETY

VARIETY CLUB
HELPING CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES
CAMP AND DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER

2950
Dear Friends of Variety,

We could not be more excited to see what the new year brings to Variety. We made great strides forward in 2016 and we’re looking to build on our progress in 2017. We’re happy to announce we’ll be hiring a new Program Director as well as a new Camp Director! We can’t wait to see the impact these new positions will have on Variety programs and on Variety in general.

Our January newsletter highlights our Downtown Holiday Party which took place Sunday January 8th. If you missed either of the Holiday Parties, there are still plenty of ways for you to support our mission of building independence and self-confidence in children with disabilities in the new year!

There are a few dates we want you to save on your calendar. Our “Let Them Eat Cake” event is scheduled for Sunday, March 5th. Our 8th Annual Vegas at Variety will take place on Saturday, March 25th. This year we will be honoring our very own Don Faul of CBIZ! On Saturday, May 20th we will be hosting our second annual Black Hat Bash at the Philadelphia Zoo. For this event, our honoree will be Paul McGovern of Deloitte.

If you have any questions, concerns or just want to chat about anything Variety, please feel free to contact me via email at angus.murray@varietyphila.org or phone (610) 584-4366 x 203. Thanks for all the support you have provided and continue to provide to our kids!

Sincerely,

Angus Murray
CEO
Variety – the Children’s Charity of the Delaware Valley
Santa was working overtime for Variety this year. Our downtown holiday party at the Sheraton Society Hill in Philadelphia was a little later than usual, but no less fun. On January 8th, about 125 children with disabilities came to eat, dance, and of course, visit Santa. The luxurious ballroom had a stage and dance floor with a section of circular tables on either side. Surrounding the room were long tables for our all-you-can-eat buffet style lunch including snacks and drinks. We also had tables outside the ballroom with coloring activities for those who needed to relax and unwind for a moment or two.

For hours, the kids enjoyed the party, many of whom had a hard time leaving the dance floor. However, when the DJ announced that Santa arrived the dance floor quickly emptied in anticipation. The kids all gathered around the door and as soon as it opened everyone rushed to hug the big jolly man in the red suit. It took a few minutes, but finally Santa reached his throne on the stage where a line of people was already waiting to get their picture taken. One-by-one kids sat on his lap, smiled for a picture, then returned to their table to find a wrapped present waiting for them.

Although the party was a post holiday event, no one was in a less festive mood. We loved seeing every child leave with a smile and to give them this experience was the perfect way to wrap-up the holiday season.
# February

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### Save the Date!

**Let Them Eat Cake - Sunday March 5**
Sample cakes from more than 35 of the area’s best pastry chefs while enjoying live music and unlimited wine tastings. **Tickets:** [http://varietyphila.org/let-them-eat-cake](http://varietyphila.org/let-them-eat-cake)

**Vegas at Variety - Saturday March 25**
Join us to play at any of our black jack, poker, craps, or roulette tables for the chance to win spectacular prize baskets. **Tickets:** [http://varietyphila.org/vegas-at-variety](http://varietyphila.org/vegas-at-variety)

**Black Hat Bash - Saturday May 20**
An extravagant gala event at the Philadelphia Zoo to support Variety.

For more information on any of these events visit [http://varietyphila.org/what-we-do/events/fundraisers/](http://varietyphila.org/what-we-do/events/fundraisers/)
Registration for our Summer Programs is now open! We are looking forward to another summer of building independence and self-confidence in children with disabilities. We always want our kids to have a ton of fun while learning as much as they can along the way to ensure the best experience possible. Whether the child is enrolled in one week of day camp or participating in our 7-week Vocational program we want him or her to feel accomplished. Our goal is to provide ordinary experiences to extraordinary children and we hope you can be a part of our mission this summer. Check out our available programs here: http://varietyphila.org/what-we-do/programs/summer-programs/

MLK Day of Service

A lot of people had the day off for Martin Luther King Jr. Day, but things were busy here at Variety. We had a ton of volunteers come to our campus to help us with the many projects we have around camp. Camp season seems like its far away, but it’s never too early to begin preparing for our busiest time of the year. About 30 members from the Methacton High School Wrestling team along with other students and parents from the Methacton school district volunteered their time to help us. We can’t thank these volunteers enough for spending their day off helping us in our mission to build independence and self-confidence in children with disabilities.
Donate

The help we offer children and families is only possible because of the help we receive from donors. The generous contributions from individuals and corporations allows us to continue the work we’ve been doing for over 50 years. Anything you can contribute will directly benefit at least one child in some way. Visit our website to learn even more on the ways you can help us help the communities we all live, work and play in.