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Thank you for your interest in Variety the Children's Charity of Florida's Kids on the Go!
Following is an application and information describing the program.

Variety the Children's Charity is an international non-profit organization founded in Pittsburgh in 1928 to serve children. Over the years, Variety has evolved to meet unmet needs in our changing community. Today, Variety Florida's mission is to provide mobility equipment for children with disabilities. This equipment, including wheelchairs, house ramps, van lifts, specially equipped bicycles and tricycles and adaptive car seats/strollers, helps children with disabilities to have access to and fully participate in their community. We serve children, 18 years of age and under, living in Central Florida.

Please read the enclosed Fact Sheet prior to filling out the application. It contains the most recent and accurate information about our Kids on the Go program. Once you have filled out the application, please return it to Variety Florida's office at: Variety Florida, attn: Mobility Committee, 520 N. Suite 222 Semoran Blvd, Orlando, Florida 32807-3331.

It is essential that you answer all of the questions completely and provide the supporting documentation where requested. You must submit equipment specifications for your application to be considered. To expedite the review process, please address all items in the Addendum for appropriate equipment being requested. Your child's physical therapist or any durable medical equipment supplier can help you to provide this information.

Also, please sign the releases which include a Release of Liability and verification of the accuracy of the information that you provide. Only then can we make an accurate determination of your child's eligibility for the program. Additionally, please review and sign the Disclaimer (we cannot release any equipment without the signed disclaimer). Lastly, please review the Authorization to Use Name and Likeness Release. Your authorization for use of name and likeness is optional. However, please remember that your willingness to assist Variety in its public relations efforts will help us to make mobility equipment available to many more children in the future.

Thank you for your interest in our Kids on the Go program. We look forward to working with you and your child. Your application will be reviewed within four weeks of receipt. Someone from Variety Florida will be contacting you within six to eight weeks. If you have questions, you please call 407.422.KIDS (5437).

Thank you!

What is Kids on the Go?

Currently, there are over 12 million special needs children in the United States and nearly half of them require some type of assistive technology device. Unfortunately, as many as 31% of those children will not receive what they so desperately need due to persistent funding barriers that exist in our healthcare system.

The Kids on the Go program is Variety the Children's Charity's main initiative dedicated to providing mobility equipment for children with mental and physical disabilities. This equipment includes but is not limited to wheelchairs, walkers, adaptive car seats and strollers, stair glides, specially-equipped tricycles and bicycles, van lifts and ramps for houses and vehicles. Families in need are referred to Variety by various family service and children's agencies and schools.

Mission Statement

Variety Florida's Kids on the Go program provides equipment to enable children to participate in their community. It serves children with physical disabilities, eighteen (18) years of age and under by providing wheelchairs, van lifts, house ramps, adaptive car seats and strollers, specially-equipped bicycles and tricycles, stair-lifts and other items, when this equipment cannot be obtained from any other source.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the purpose of the Kids on the Go program?

Kids on the Go exists in order to provide wheelchairs, house ramps, van lifts and other pieces of mobility equipment necessary to increase a child's access to the community.

2. Who does the program serve?

The Kids on the Go program serves children who are eighteen (18) years of age and under and whose need for mobility equipment is not met by other sources—including family, school, insurance and service program resources.

3. How often may a child apply for a grant?

We will make a grant to a child no more than once every three (3) years and preference will be given to those children who have not received previous grants. There is no limit to how many applications can be filed when previous requests could not be funded.

4. How much money can be spent on any individual child?

The Kids on the Go program will spend no more than \$5,000 on any individual grant. However, the family is free to combine that funding with dollars of their own or dollars from other sources. Variety Florida will make payments directly to the vendor of the equipment or material that is provided.

5. Are there income restrictions?

Yes. It is the belief of Variety the Children's Charity that the Kids on the Go program should help those children who are unable to obtain help from any other sources. In order that we might accomplish this, we ask that each application be submitted with documentation of attempts made to obtain funding from other sources.

Additionally, we ask that the family provide us with any other information that might clarify their child's need for mobility equipment and the family's inability to obtain these items.

We understand that a family can incur tremendous medical (and other) expenses in support of a child with disabilities. We will take this fact into account when making our determinations. However, in some cases, Variety Florida may offer to pay for a percentage of a piece of equipment, based on the family's income. Each application must include a declaration of the family's income.

6. What types of equipment will be funded?

Wheelchairs (electric and manual), stair glides, ramps (for house or van), van lifts (where a ramp will not be sufficient), adaptive car seats (and stroller bases), walkers, standers, adaptive bikes and tricycles, and house modifications (only to entrance doors, not interiors). House modifications will be done only in cases where the house is owner occupied. Requests for each piece of equipment must be accompanied by a Letter of Medical Necessity from a doctor or physical therapist documenting the need for the item and stating the specifications necessary. To expedite review process, please address all items in the Addendum for appropriate equipment being requested.





Application

Instructions

The submission of an application must include the following for consideration by Variety the Children's Charity of Florida:

- a. letters of verification from the professionals you have identified who are familiar with your child's needs and who will specify the appropriate equipment for your child. Letters must address all items as stated in the Addendum for appropriate equipment being requested;
- b. copies of determinations from relevant insurance programs;
- c. equipment specifications (and bids from suppliers when possible); and,
- d. signed release forms.

Variety Florida's Mobility Committee will then review this information. Please mail application with supporting documents to: Variety Florida, attn: Mobility Committee, 520 N. Semoran Blvd, Suite 222, Orlando, Florida 32807.

Date of Application: _____

Child's Name/Age: _____

Who has legal custody of this child?

Name: _____

Address (home or agency where child resides): _____

Telephone: _____

Do you own the home? Yes No

Medical Diagnosis (optional): _____

Has the child been diagnosed with mental retardation/developmental delays (for restricted grants)? Yes No



Nature of Disability: _____

Equipment Needed and Cost: _____

Name of Person Completing Application: _____

Relation to Child: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Please list the names of two (2) healthcare professionals who have worked with the child, and can verify the need for the requested equipment. We will not contact these individuals without your authorization.

Name	Phone	Occupation	Agency

Please sign here if you consent to Variety Florida contacting the above named individuals to discuss your child's equipment needs: _____

Please provide a brief description of the child's situation and of the benefit the requested equipment will provide. Please indicate the family's ability and willingness to participate financially in the purchase.



Potential Funding Sources

Please fill out the following funding resource checklist completely. This checklist documents your efforts to secure funding for the needed equipment through other sources such as insurance, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, etc. Please indicate whether you have sought funding from the following sources, and the outcome of your efforts.

HAVE Applied *	Have NOT Applied	AGENCY
		Office Of Vocational Rehabilitation—Usually for ages 18+; if younger, family should first request equipment from school system. Will fund post-secondary education and purchase ramps, lifts, wheelchairs, prostheses and assistive devices. Vocational goal needed, but some “independent living funds” available. Will not fund orthopedic shoes unless attached to braces.
		Medical Assistance (MEDICAID)—Consumer must get Rx from doctor and then submit form (30 – 40 day delay). If denied, appeal using MA-97. Authorizations may be held for 180 days. Medicaid will fund manual wheelchairs.
		Medicare—No delay, but some things such as grab-bars and bath benches are not covered.
		Health Insurance—Check specific policy coverage.
		School District—School district may provide certain equipment.
		Other—Please identify source and result

* For all agencies you have applied to, please describe outcome. If you have received a written denial, please attach a copy.



Release of Liability

In consideration of the receipt of certain mobility equipment donated by Variety the Children's Charity of Florida, _____ (the Recipient thereof), through his/her parent or legal guardian, hereby releases and forever discharges Variety the Children's Charity of Florida and Variety Clubs International, their members, employees and officers (hereafter collectively referred to as "Variety") from and against any and all claims, of any type, which arise from or are related to:

1. any alleged malfunction of or defect in the mobility equipment;
2. any allegation that the mobility equipment was not appropriate or suitable for the Recipient; and,
3. any other matter, of any type, related, in any way, to the Recipient's receipt or use of the mobility equipment.

Signature is required of all parents/legal guardians.

Parent/Legal Guardian	Date
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Parent/Legal Guardian	Date
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I (we) stipulate that the information included in this application is true to the best of my (our) knowledge. Further, I (we) understand that the presence of inaccurate information in this application will result in the need for the re-evaluation of this application on the part of Variety.

Signature is required of all parents/legal guardians.

Parent/Legal Guardian	Date
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Parent/Legal Guardian	Date
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Disclaimer

The mission of Variety is to help purchase equipment related to mobility for children, eighteen (18) years of age and under. The equipment we provide carries no warranty from Variety and its use, even in the event of malfunction resulting in injury, gives rise to no liability on the part of Variety. Variety is merely a funding source. Variety is in no way responsible for reclaiming, disposing of, maintaining or repairing equipment. It is the sole responsibility of the Recipient's legal guardian(s) to maintain, repair and/or dispose of the equipment. Any other costs that may be associated with the equipment such as installation, delivery, labor, disposal, etc. that are not explicitly stated on the application are the sole responsibility of the Recipient's legal guardian(s). All installations of ramps, lifts, stair glides, electrical supplies, etc. must be in compliance with applicable building codes. Variety is in no way responsible for ensuring compliance with any codes.

Before disbursement of any funds to purchase equipment, the legal guardian(s) of the Recipient must have this form signed, witnessed by a non-family member, and returned to Variety.

I _____
Legal Guardian Name Legal Guardian Signature

am the legal guardian of _____
Recipient's Name (printed)

I have read and fully understand and agree to the above Disclaimer.

This document has been witnessed by _____ Date Signed
_____ on this date _____
Name



Authorization to Use Name and Likeness
(Optional)

The Recipient and his/her parents or legal guardian hereby acknowledge and agree that acceptance of the mobility equipment from Variety may result in publicity. The Recipient and his/her parents or legal guardian hereby irrevocably authorize Variety: (a) to publicize and use the Recipient's likeness, voice and features, with or without his/her name, for any publication, promotion, trade or business use, or any other purpose; (b) to photograph, videotape, film and record each Recipient in any manner Variety chooses; (c) to copyright, convey or otherwise distribute, now or in the future, any such material involving the Recipient, his/her parents or legal guardian and that said material may be distributed to anyone, for any purpose, including the general public, magazines, newspapers, television, radio stations; (d) to publicize, now or in the future, the name of the Recipient including information regarding his/her physical condition and details regarding the mobility equipment received from Variety.

The Recipient and his/her parents or legal guardian agrees that it is not necessary for Variety or anyone else to contact them prior to releasing any information authorized by this document. The Recipient and his/her parents or legal guardian hereby releases Variety from and against any and all claims, of any type, which arise from or are related to Variety's use, distribution or disclosure of any photographs, films, videotapes, electronic recording or other information regarding the Recipient and the award from Variety.

Signature is required of all parents/legal guardians.

Parent/Legal Guardian	Date
Parent/Legal Guardian	Date

(Please note that your signature is not required on this form for the application to be considered by Variety the Children's Charity of Florida. However, when possible, we would like to include information about the children we have helped in order to enhance our fundraising efforts to secure additional funding from corporate sponsors, individuals, and community foundations to help children with special needs and to continue our programs.)

Application Checklist

Please include the following items with your application and mail as one packet to the Variety office. Only completed applications will be reviewed by the Kids on the Go mobility committee. Once the materials are received, you may expect to hear back from Variety the Children's Charity within six to eight weeks from receipt of your completed application. If you have any questions or would like assistance from Variety Florida in identifying durable equipment vendors, please call our office. Thank you for your interest in our Kids on the Go program!

TO COMPLETE YOUR APPLICATION, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS NEEDED. PLEASE SEND AS ONE (1) PACKET:

Letter(s) of verification from professionals you identified (therapist, doctor, social worker) who are most familiar with your child's needs. This letter should specify your child's needs for the equipment requested.

Signature on Release of Liability form.

Authorization to Use Name and Likeness (signature optional).

Address all items as stated in the Addendum for appropriate equipment being requested.

Clear and detailed description of equipment required to meet child's needs.

Complete Potential Funding Sources form and provide copies of determinations from relevant insurance and assistance programs.

Two/three equipment bids from suppliers (Variety can assist you in choosing a vendor).

Signature on Disclaimer.

The following list represents costs for the types of mobility equipment typically requested from parents and guardians, schools, and family service agencies seeking assistance from Variety the Children's Charity of Florida for children with disabilities.

Wheelchairs

Electric	\$3,500 – 5,000
Manual	\$1,500 – 3,000

Ramps/Lifts for Vans

Portable ramp with tie-downs	\$1,400 – 2,500
Hydraulic lift	\$4,000 – 15,000 +

Scalamobil (wheelchair and stair climber)	\$5,000
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House Ramp	\$2,200 – 4,900
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Specially-Equipped Tricycles/Bicycles	\$700 – 1,500
Handcycles	\$2,500 – 4,000
Tandem bicycles	\$3,800 +

Adaptive Strollers & Car Seats	\$700 – 1,200
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Stairlifts	\$1,600 – 3,500
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