



Impact Report 2025

Variety the children's charity NT INC



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Variety Northern Territory acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we live, work and support children across the Northern Territory.

We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and future and acknowledge the important, ongoing role of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. continue to play within Australia.



The Why?

2025 has been another significant and rewarding year for Variety NT. In a challenging and competitive funding environment, we have continued to strengthen our governance and sustainability, ensuring we remain focused on delivering meaningful support to Territory children and families.

What truly sets Variety NT apart is our people — our volunteers, members, sponsors, donors, Patron, Ambassadors, dedicated staff and committed Board. Your passion and generosity are the driving force behind everything we achieve.

This year, we proudly celebrated two important milestones. We marked 25 years of the Variety NT Adventure Camp with a special reception at Parliament House and a family celebration at Casuarina Pool.

We also celebrated 50 years of Variety in Australia, including representation at NSW Government House and participation in the National Variety Bash in South Australia.

We sincerely thank our business partners, government supporters and the wider community. Your ongoing support allows us to continue making a real difference for children who are sick, disadvantaged, or living with disability across the Northern Territory.

Every story in this report reflects the heart of our mission: helping kids be kids. Whether it's a child finding calm in a sensory space, a teenager catching their first barra, or a family receiving essential support during a difficult time — your contribution made it possible.

Thank you for being part of our Variety family. Together, we are creating brighter futures for NT children. And always remember *"No one stands taller than when stooping to help a child"*.



Peter Duffy
Chief Barker



Tania Sellers
General Manager

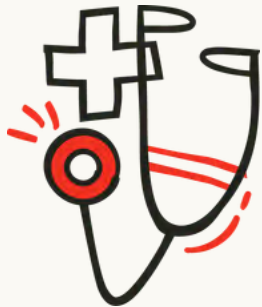


The How

With your help, we support kids who are sick, experiencing disadvantage or living with disability through life-changing equipment and services.

Care

We help children access vital health care and support, filling critical gaps so no child misses out on the care they deserve.



Freedom

We empower children with disabilities to navigate their world independently and experience childhood to the fullest.



Future

We equip children with education, skills, and community support, opening doors to lifelong opportunity and a more inclusive future.



Partnerships

We have valued relationships with corporate partners to deliver a range of projects and programs, designed to ensure

**all kids feel
like they belong.**



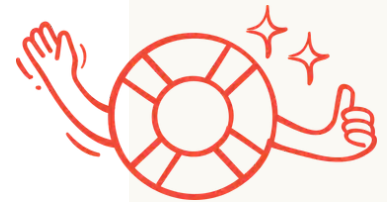
The Numbers

**A BETTER LIFE FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
THANKS TO YOU**



1,827

children supported by
Variety Northern Territory



\$38,473

granted so NT children could
receive resources, programs and
experiences.



\$10,000

in-kind resources
provided

184,299 Nationally

Number of children
impacted by Variety across
Australia this year



**Do you know of a
Northern Territory child
at risk of falling through
the gaps?**

PLEASE REFER THEIR FAMILY TO US



variety.org.au/nt/how-we-help



“Sometimes the only thing that calms Tama is swinging — now he can do that safely at home, any time he needs.”

It takes a village!

Tama is a 13 year old boy living with Autism Spectrum Disorder. He is non-verbal and has complex developmental needs, including ongoing challenges with social communication, restricted interests and repetitive behaviours.

Tama is unable to communicate his needs and often gets frustrated and angry. He would often run away. Sometimes the only thing that calms him down is the rhythmic motion of swinging. Sometimes this happens at 2am.

With his new swing, Tama can now stay safely in his back yard. With the support of his village, his devoted father, OT, Carers, adopted Auntie and now Variety NT who gave him the joy of a backyard swing which is sturdy enough to withstand all he can give it.



Filling a Gap for a Child in need



Aayanash's older brother Aarush sustained a spinal cord injury in a motor vehicle accident, resulting in complete paralysis with no sensation below T10.

Aarush's needs are being met by TIO MAC. Aayanash was born just one day after the accident and Aarush's equipment needs are being covered, Aayanash is not.

An Occupational Therapist prescribed a specialised double pram with a supportive seating system for Aarush to allow the family to access the community.

Initially Aayanash was able to use a bassinet attachment on the other side of the pram. However, he has now outgrown the bassinet and requires a rumble seat to continue travelling alongside his brother.

Aayanash does not have a disability, there are no funding options available for this equipment. Variety stepped in to provide the pram extension, ensuring the family can continue to move around the community safely and inclusively.

"From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for helping bring our vision of a school engine room to life".

Bakewell Primary School

"What was once just an idea—a hope for a space where students could feel safe, supported, and seen—has now become a vibrant reality. Thanks to your generosity and belief in our mission, we now have a dedicated space where students can pause, regulate, and return to learning with renewed focus and confidence.

This engine room has transformed the rhythm of our school day. For our students, it's a sanctuary—a calm, welcoming environment where they can take a breath, reset, and re-engage. For our staff, it's a vital support that allows us to meet each child where they are, with compassion and care. The ripple effect has been profound: improved wellbeing, stronger relationships, and a more inclusive, responsive learning environment for all.

None of this would have been possible without you. Your support has not only changed our school—it has changed lives! "

— Danielle Hall | Principal



Yirrkala School

Yirrkala School, in North East Arnhem Land, has delivered bilingual education for over 50 years, integrating Yolŋu Matha Dhuwaya language and culture with the Western curriculum. Serving a predominantly Yolŋu community, students begin with strong First Language learning in the early years before transitioning to increased English instruction, supported by Yolŋu educators.

Students face a range of complex challenges, including health issues, overcrowded housing, trauma, and neurodevelopmental disabilities, alongside limited access to mental health services and declining government funding.

To address these challenges, Yirrkala School implements the Zones of Regulation curriculum to help students manage emotions and build resilience.

The Variety grant will strengthen Yirrkala School's wellbeing initiatives by providing resources that create calm, comfortable learning spaces, reduce distractions, and support the implementation of the Zones of Regulation program.



VARIETY ADVENTURE CAMP

The 25th Anniversary Variety NT Adventure Camp was an unforgettable celebration of fun, friendship, and new experiences!

The camp is for teenagers aged 13 to 17 years with mild to medium disabilities, giving them the chance to enjoy a week of adventure, connection, and skill-building in a safe and supportive environment.

One of the most special parts of camp is the involvement of the Junior Police Rangers, who are buddied up with our teenage campers throughout the week. Their friendship, support and positive energy make a world of difference, and we are incredibly grateful for their ongoing partnership and dedication.

The week was filled with engaging and memorable activities. A major highlight was every camper catching a barra at the Barramundi Adventures – a day made possible thanks to a grant from the NT Recreational Fishing scheme. Some of our Variety Bash teams also joined us too, showing off their cars and sharing a delicious lunch of freshly caught fish.



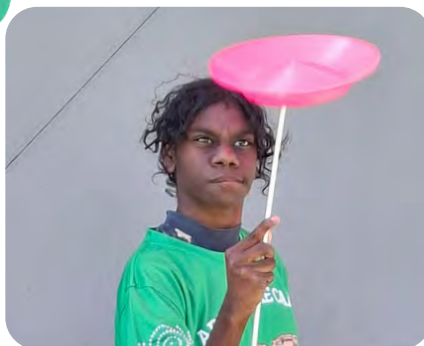
To mark 25 years of Adventure Camp, we hosted a community celebration at Casuarina Pool, proudly supported by the City of Darwin.

It was a day full of water play, a drumming workshop, Hoops for Health, Tip Top Circus, Tai Chi, a photo booth, art and craft, and plenty of yummy food.

Another magical moment was celebrating Territory Day on the Spirit of Darwin. For many campers, this was their first time watching the fireworks from a boat – paired with a fantastic three course meal. Huge thanks to the NT Government Youth Grant and the Spirit of Darwin for making this memorable experience possible.

Thanks to Airnorth, we were able to extend the opportunity to children from far north Western Australia to be part of Camp, broadening our reach and impact.

This year's camp shirts were specially designed by Katelynn Clape and proudly sponsored by Intensity.



Celebrating 50 Years of Variety Australia

Government House - Sydney

On 9 April 2025, we joined other Variety people from across the country at Government House to celebrate 50 years of Variety supporting Australian children who are sick, disadvantaged or living with disability to be the very best they can be.

Founded in 1975 in Sydney under the leadership of Chair Paul Hogan, Variety Australia began with a simple but powerful purpose — to improve the lives of children in need. By 1980, regional committees had been established in each capital city, expanding across the nation.

In 1985, entrepreneur Dick Smith invited a group of friends for “a drive in the bush” — and the iconic Variety Bash was born. What started as a spirited outback adventure has grown into one of Australia’s most cherished and enduring fundraising traditions.

Over the past five decades, Variety has distributed more than \$200 million in grants to help Aussie kids in need.



Celebrating 50 Years of Variety & 25 Years of the Adventure Camp

The Northern Territory Government hosted a special reception to mark two extraordinary milestones — 50 years of Variety in Australia and 25 years of the much-loved Variety NT Adventure Camp. It was a celebration not just of longevity, but of impact.

Together, we reflected on thousands of lives touched, countless smiles created, and opportunities that may never have been possible without the generosity and dedication of our community.

The room was filled with people who have been part of that journey — past grant recipients, former campers, volunteers, sponsors, Variety members and staff. Some traveled from interstate to join us for this meaningful occasion.

Seeing children we once supported now thriving young people was a powerful reminder of why we do what we do. The evening included heartfelt speeches, a moving poem, and years captured in photographs. Stories were shared of challenge, resilience and joy — and of the village of people who stand behind every child we support.





Variety BASH



The 2025 Variety NT Bash formed part of the national National Variety Bash in South Australia, celebrating 50 years of Variety in Australia. Bash teams from across the country came together for a night of celebration.

Many NT Bash cars traveled more than 3,500 kilometres from Darwin to Coonawarra, SA, where the official Bash began. The route weaved through some of South Australia's most beautiful regions, including Mount Gambier, Beachport, Middleton and surrounding areas, before finishing in Burra for the final night.

Along the way, the Bash visited Rendelsham Primary School and Old Tailem Town, where a local school joined participants for a memorable walk through the historic streets. It was a journey filled with connection, generosity and appreciation of South Australia's diverse landscapes.

The teams fundraise all year round. We can't thank you enough for your tireless work fundraising and volunteering for children in need. A huge thank-you to "The Hillbillies - Car 23" for raising the highest money for Bash 2025.





NT Bash Fundraising

TOP HAT HIGHEST FVNDRASIER

PLATINUM – \$87,808

The Hillbillies - Car 23

2ND HIGHEST FVNDRASIER

PLATINUM – \$70,360

The Wiggles - Car 12

3ND HIGHEST FVNDRASIER

RUBY (\$17K +)

2 Kool 4 Skool - Car 9

GOLD (\$13K+)

Toy Story - Car 61

SILVER (\$9K+)

Jellybean Crew - Car 36

Outback Ghost Busters - 72

The Muggles - Car 934

THANK-YOU

- Bash Committee
- Volunteers
- Sponsors & Supporter

BRONZE (\$5K+)

Pink Ladies - Car 314

Mario Broz - Car 85

Halloween Hustlers - Car 666

Tonka Tow - Car W10

Numbskulls - Car 0850

NT Bash Patrol - Car NTBPO1

Bluey - Car 08

WHITE (\$4K+)

Valiant Vikings - Car 31.9

Vicar of Dibley - Car 65

Pirates - Car 51



NT Bash Awards

SPIRIT OF THE BASH

Jellybean Crew - Car 36

SHOW AND SHINE

2 Kool 4 Skool - Car 9

DALY WATERS 'VIRGIN' BASHER

Trudy Arrigo - Car 12

OFFICIALLY LEGENDS

Pathfinders - Aaron Brooks + Karen Maslin

ULTIMATE BEST SCAM + BROKEN COMPASS

Tonka Tow - Car 10W

PIST'N BROKE

Pirates - Car 51

BEST RED FACES ACT

Toy Story - Car 61 + Bamfords

BASHERS CHOICE

2 Kool 4 Skool - Car 9





The Santa Fun Run & Walk was very successful this year, with our new location at Lake Alexander, East Point proving to be the perfect setting. The move was met with overwhelmingly positive feedback, with participants loving the scenic course and vibrant community atmosphere.

The morning was filled with festive fun, fitness and fundraising, as families, friends and workmates came together to support NT kids in need.

It truly was a sea of Santa red, with elves, reindeer and plenty of creative costumes adding to the cheerful spirit of the event.

Thanks to our wonderful supporter Airnorth, every registered participant went into the draw for a chance to win two return flight vouchers — a fantastic prize that added even more excitement to the day.

We thank everyone who participated, dressed up, volunteered and supported the event.





The Hot 100 Australia Day Ute Run was once again a true celebration of Territory spirit and all things Australian.

After a wonderful Welcome and smoking ceremony from Larrakia Nation, more than 300 vehicles joined the convoy, each decked out in creative decorations and proudly flying Australian flags. Drivers and passengers went all out with costumes, adding colour and fun to the day.

The parade brought energy and excitement to the streets, with more than 10,000 people lining the route from Hidden Valley Raceway to Noonamah Tavern, cheering on the vibrant convoy. It was a fantastic display of community pride and support.

We couldn't have delivered such a successful event without our major sponsors — Hot 100, the National Australia Day Council, Noonamah Rodeo and Tavern, Trafficwerx NT and Australia Day Council NT.



National Reconciliation Week - Trivia

In partnership with Miriam Rose Foundation, we held a Trivia night to bring the community together for an evening of fun and to raise funds for children in need. It was hosted at the Darwin Trailer Boat Club, the night combined friendly competition with meaningful connection.

Corporate teams, community groups and supporters filled the room, creating a lively atmosphere of teamwork and shared spirit. The energy throughout the night reflected not only a love of trivia, but a genuine commitment to supporting local children and reconciliation.



Third Party Events Delivered

Variety NT continues to receive support from events that choose us as their Charity of Choice.

- Darwin Supercars
- Italian Festival
- AC Club Fundraiser
- Noonamah Tavern & Rodeo:
 - Melbourne Cup Frog Races
- Drag Queen Bingo
- City of Darwin Carols by Candlelight
- Special Children's Christmas Party
- NT Fire & Rescue Service Recruit Squad 51





Woolworths is one of Variety NT's major supporters and their commitment to helping Territory children shines through in everything they do. Each year, they raise vital funds through their direct financial contributions, as well as their Easter and Small Change fundraising campaigns.

In addition to financial support, Woolworths generously provides food and volunteer assistance at several of our community events and our annual Variety Bash event. They also support with Woolworths vouchers that are used as prizes and incentives throughout the year.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Woolworths, their dedicated team, and their customers for this incredible support. Their generosity makes a real and lasting difference for children across the Northern Territory. We look forward to continuing this strong partnership and building on our shared efforts to support even more Territory children.



Our Partners

We are fortunate to have the support of many organisations.

We take this opportunity to thank the wonderful companies and organisations who provide ongoing support, sponsorship and donations to assist us to enhance the lives of Northern Territory children in need. We are grateful to each and every one of you.

PLATINUM PARTNER



MEDIA PARTNER



KEY PARTNERS



GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



EVENT and PROGRAM PARTNERS



Casuarina Sports Club - Curby's NT - Daly Waters Pub - Darwin Gourmet Tours
 Darwin Ice Skating Centre - Darwin Trailer Boat Club - Flanno's Eggs - Fosters
 Foodland - Hidden Valley Raceway - Humpty Doo Primary School - Intensity - Mick's
 Whips - Mills Media - National Motor Museum - NT Police - Paspaley - Power & Water
 Rhino Industrial - Slappa's Thongs - Tailem Town - Tommo's Pies
 Top End Zumba - Totally Work Wear - William Carroll Photography - Veolia - Zip Print

Community Groups

Darwin Runners & Walkers Club - Girl Guides Darwin - Junior Police Rangers
 Lions Club - Rotary Club of Darwin

Variety NT recognises the contribution and dedication of...

Our Patron

Daryl Manzie AM

Our Board of Directors

Peter Duffy – Chief Barker

Bernie Ingram - Vice Chair

Noel Clifford – Treasurer

Helen Pocock – Secretary

Laura Campbell

Emma Johnson

Nutisha Todi

Kerry Lee

Vicki Dennien

Helen Galton

Lynn McCormick

Chris Townsend

Ambassadors

Sarah Passalick

Shalom Kaa

Our Volunteers

Every year, we're supported by some incredible volunteers who donate their skills, time and talents to making the world a brighter place for our children. To everyone who has provided some form of assistance this year, we give our heartfelt thanks.

We can't do it without YOU!





There are many ways to get involved:

Become a donor, volunteer your time, join one of our events or even create your own. You can give through your workplace, partner with us as a corporate supporter or make a unique contribution by donating your hair.

However you choose to help, you will positively impact the lives of children in need in the Northern Territory.



DONATE TODAY



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08 8981 2544

gm@varietynt.org.au

www.variety.org.au/nt



VarietyNT

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