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Variety Announces Every Day PossAbilities Campaign Steward Family Foundation pledges support

St. Louis (April 19, 2021) –Variety the Children’s Charity seeks to raise \$1.6 M to change the lives of local children with special needs. Variety families by definition face economic hardships. With increased requests for medical equipment, therapy and our inclusive educational and recreational programming, waitlists continue to grow. The **Everyday PossAbilities** campaign will highlight how Variety’s equipment, therapy, camp and performing arts programs help kids redefine abilities. The impact of these programs redefines their future possibilities for independence, self-expression and connection with the world. Reaching our campaign goal will help Variety eliminate a waitlist and provide these children with the tools they need to be fully-engaged in our community.

By offering a leadership matching gift, Steward Family Foundation asks the entire community to join with them and ensure Variety not only reaches but surpasses our goal. With this incredible generosity, the impact of every donation will be doubled! On behalf of the Steward Family Foundation, David Steward said, “Thelma, our children and I are honored to serve Variety St. Louis and all that they do for children with special needs, the most vulnerable among us. Jesus said children are the kingdom of heaven. We pray that people across the St. Louis community

will join us in our efforts to support Variety's outstanding programs that change the lives of so many children."

Every Day PossAbilities Campaign will feature four stories highlighting the everyday abilities Variety's programs provide: Jada's power wheelchair giving her the ability to Take a Stand; Lars's therapy allowing him to Take the First Step; Ava and Ashlyn meeting at Adventure Camp and Making a Lifelong Friend; and IV's principal role in Variety Theatre which taught him how to Raise His Voice.

"Variety the Children's Charity of St Louis believes that engaging in the everyday activities that most kids take for granted is important for all children. Granting a piece of medical equipment is much more than the equipment itself, it unlocks the ability to join in or participate," says Larry Otto, Board Chair. "Variety makes gifts of medical equipment and provides therapies and innovative programs that give kids more possibilities every single day."

About Variety the Children's Charity of St Louis

Variety helps create a world where abilities are redefined. Opportunities are reimagined for kids with special needs. To make this a reality, Variety empowers children with physical and developmental disabilities by giving access to critical medical equipment and therapies, along with innovative Camp and Performing Arts programs. Equipment and experiences create opportunities for recreation, socialization, and artistic expression. Children gain or maintain independence, boost socialization among their friends and family, demonstrate belief in

themselves, and increase skills they need to engage their world as fully as possible. www.varietystl.org

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