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## **Variety Elects New Board Chair**

### **Prominent Business and Civic Leader also added to Board**

**St. Louis (August 3)** – Variety the Children’s Charity of St. Louis has elected its new Board Chair— U.S. Bank St. Louis Market President, Lawrence K. Otto (Larry).

Larry Otto has been deeply involved in the St. Louis community. He is a St. Louis native who has held leadership positions in both commercial banking and wealth management businesses during his extensive career. In 2020, he was awarded Variety’s Man of the Year. He previously served as board chair of Variety the Children’s Charity of St. Louis and has served on the Executive Committee for several years. U.S. Bank and the U.S. Bank Foundation have supported Variety St Louis for many years, assuring that services and programs for children with special needs is strong and vibrant.



“I am honored to be re-elected as Board Chair for Variety St. Louis. Their innovative programs empower children with special needs and help us to be a more inclusive and caring community. In our current environment, the organization’s programs are incredibly essential,” said Otto.

“We are looking forward to having Larry’s insightful leadership once again,” says Brian Roy, Executive Director, Variety the Children’s Charity of St Louis.

Larry takes over the helm from retiring Chair Warner Baxter, President & CEO, Ameren Corporation. “We thank Warner for his three years of service to Variety’s families,” Roy says. “During his leadership, Variety has increased the number of campers, the TherHappy Kids program treated more kids, and medical equipment gifts increased. He has generously given his time and talents to assist kids with special needs in our community.”

In addition, Variety St. Louis continued its tradition of prominent board leadership by naming Ian Caso, President and Publisher of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch to the board of directors “It is my privilege to represent the St. Louis Post-Dispatch as we help share the news of how Variety inspires and empowers children with special needs,” said Ian Caso, president and publisher of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

“For more than fifty years, the Post-Dispatch has provided a voice for children with special needs. We are thrilled to have Ian’s leadership and his commitment to our mission,” says Roy.



### **About Variety the Children’s Charity of St. Louis**

Variety envisions a world where abilities are redefined and opportunities are reimaged 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, which provide 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](http://www.varietystl.org)

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