



Variety the Children's Charity of
North Texas, Tent 17
3102 Oak Lawn Avenue, Suite 700
Dallas, Texas 75219
tel 214.560.2263 fax 214.210.2902
www.varietynorthtexas.org

VARIETY'S KIDS IN NORTH TEXAS

NAME: Ann Marie
AGE: 5
CONDITION: Hypotonia and Static Encephalopathy
DATE: April 2007



Ann has overcome many obstacles in her young life. As an infant, she could not suck a bottle or eat normal food. She could not hold her head up until she was almost a year, and after much hard work she was able to take her first step without the aid of her walker a few months after her third birthday.



Due to her Hypotonia and poor coordination, Ann is unable to sit safely in the child booster seats that are available on the market for her height. However, due to her 30 pound frame, she is required by Texas law to remain in a car seat. This regulation, and Ann's own abilities, makes it necessary for her to be in a five point harness system similar to those for infants and toddlers.

Like most consumer goods that have a very low demand, the system that she needs to remain safe is not readily available, nor very cheap. Like many of Ann's needed equipment, the car seat was not covered by her parent's private insurance.

Ann's mother stated to Variety in her application for assistance, "I struggle right now to pay her medical bills and purchase the special protein drink that she must have everyday to increase her weight. In addition to her other conditions, Ann also suffers from lung disease. Due to her various conditions, I have to miss a lot of work without pay to support my daughter."

Variety feels that all children should have the ability to be as safe as possible, and it feels that families should be able transport their children with limited hindrance. As such, Variety supported Ann's family with the full purchase of her own Britax Traveler Plus car seat.



With this device, Ann can now be transported in a safe manner from doctor's appointments, school and all the other outings that a family likes to take their children on.

*The Variety Club of Texas Tent 17 (d.b.a. Variety the Children's Charity of North Texas) is a federally recognized 501(c)(3) organization (EIN 75-0630233).
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Our latest 990 and audited financial statements are available online at www.varietynorthtexas.org.