



Rocky View County
Family & Community Support Services (FCSS)

2021 FCSS SPECIAL PROJECTS FUNDING APPLICATION
(FUNDING PERIOD: JANUARY 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2021)

Please type or print legibly. Applicants must be a non-profit organization/agency that serves Rocky View County residents. All information provided is public. A project evaluation is required by February 28, 2022 if your application is successful. ***Please note that faxed or e-mailed copies of the application will not be accepted. It is strongly recommended that you courier or hand deliver your proposal (printed single sided pages only) and request confirmation of receipt. APPLICATION DEADLINE IS 4:00 P.M. SEPTEMBER 30, 2020 APPLICATIONS NOT RECEIVED BY THIS DEADLINE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.***

1. ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Organization Name	Variety – the Children’s Charity of Alberta Association
Project Name	Just Like You Disability Awareness Education Program
FCSS Funding Request (Maximum \$7,500) (from Section 9.6 C Proposed Budget)	\$7500
E-Mail Address and Website	jana.hands@varietyalberta.ca ; www.varietyalberta.ca
Mailing Address (include postal code)	153, 1811 4 th Street SW, Calgary AB T2S 1W2
Street Address (for courier purposes)	
Agency Telephone Number	403-466-1630
Agency Fax Number	
Executive Director Name	Jana Hands
Program Contact Name	Jana Hands
Phone Number (If different from above)	

☒ Please email confirmation of receipt of this application to: jana.hands@varietyalberta.ca

2. PREVENTION

In what way(s) is your program preventive in nature? Check the appropriate items from the following list. You will be required to report on each of the Outcomes that you have selected.

Provincial Outcome	Rocky View County Outcomes	
Improved social well-being of individuals	Outcome 1: Individuals experience personal well-being. Indicators: Resilience; self-esteem; optimism; capacity to meet needs; autonomy; competence; personal engagement; meaning and purpose.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Outcome 2: Individuals are connected with others. Indicators: Quality of social relationships; social supports available; trust and belonging.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Outcome 3: Children and youth develop positively. Indicators: Developmental assets.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Provincial Outcome	Rocky View County Outcomes	
Improved social well-being of families	Outcome 4: Healthy functioning families. Indicators: Positive family relationships; positive parenting; positive family communications.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Outcome 5: Families have social supports. Indicators: Extent and quality of social networks; family accesses resources as needed.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Provincial Outcome	Rocky View County Outcomes	
Improved social well-being of the community.	Outcome 6: The community is connected and engaged. Indicators: Social engagement; social support; awareness of the community; positive attitudes toward others and the community.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Outcome 7: Community social issues are identified and addressed. Indicators: Awareness of community social issues; understanding of community social issues; agencies and/or community members work in partnership to address social issues in the community.	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Attach a separate page providing a brief overview of your organization and the project.

- Describe briefly how this is a special project and how it will specifically support Rocky View County Residents. Rocky View County residents do not include people who reside in Airdrie, Beiseker, Chestermere, Cochrane, Crossfield, Irricana or Redwood Meadows. It does include those who live outside of these municipalities and within the hamlets located within the County's borders.
- Define your region of operation;
- Include the statement of need;
- The activities that will be used to address the need;
- The expected outcomes; and
- Agency/project mission. What is your mission and what are you currently doing to achieve your mission (e.g. other programs and services that are not a part of this application for funding)?

4. PROJECT FIGURES

- Estimated Number of Total Program Participants: 3000
- Estimated Number of County Resident Program Participants: 1372
- Estimated Number of Volunteer Hours Related to Program: 50

5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

The following documents must be attached:

- Organization's Annual Financial Statement;
- Organization's Proposed Operating Budget – include contributions from other sources and detailed expenditures, do not include in-kind supports, only actual dollars. A budget shell is attached on the next page if you wish to use it;
- List of Organization's Officers and Directors. Do not include personal contact information (home addresses, emails, or phone numbers);
- A copy of Alberta Societies Act Registration if new applicant.

Other documents may also be attached to the application form that provides further clarification.

6. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE:

This is to certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information included in this application complies with the requirements and conditions set out in the Family and Community Support Services Act and Regulation. (<https://www.alberta.ca/family-and-community-support-services-fcss-program.aspx>)

J Hands

(Signature of Applicant)

Jana Hands - CEO
(Print Name & Title)

September 21, 2020
(Date)

Please indicate how you heard of the Rocky View County FCSS Program:

_____ newspaper ad _____ social media _____ website visit/search

_____ word of mouth ☒ other (specify) I have worked in the charitable sector for many years and knew of FCSS funding to support vulnerable populations.

Submit Completed Documents to
or for further assistance contact:

Randy Ell, FCSS Coordinator
Rocky View County
262075 Rocky View Point
Rocky View County, AB T4A 0X2
Phone: 403.520.1289

The FCSS Program Is Not:

- Recreational.
- A Public Health Transportation Grant.
- Direct assistance, including money, food, clothing or shelter to sustain an individual or family.
- Rehabilitative.
- A duplication of services from other Government Agencies.

The personal information on this form is being collected for the purpose of determining eligibility of an applicant to receive FCSS funding; to assist in administering the FCSS funding; and to monitor, assess, and evaluate your program. This information is collected under the authority of Section 33 (c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and may become public information once it is submitted to the FCSS program. Questions regarding the collection of this information can be directed to the Manager, Recreation, Parks and Community Support at 403.520.6307.

2021 Special Projects Funding Application

Variety – the Children’s Charity of Alberta Association (Variety Alberta)

3. Project Description:

a) Describe briefly how this is a special project and how it will specifically support Rocky View County Residents.

In the summer of 2018, Variety Alberta brought the Just Like You™ (JLY) Disability Awareness Education Program from Variety NSW to Canada. JLY is a series of free and fun workshops delivered to primary school aged children to build understanding, acceptance and inclusion of individuals living with a disability.

We did some revisions to the program in the summer of 2018 to fit a Canadian audience with some minor content modifications and ran a pilot in two Cochrane schools in the fall. After a successful pilot, we began delivery of the program in January 2019 and delivered to just under 3000 students in schools in Rocky View County; Cochrane; Rocky View (Airdrie) and Calgary.

In the summer 2019, we wrote content and expanded the program to Kindergarten aged children allowing us to deliver the program and messages of inclusion and celebration of differences to an entire school population.

We have received positive messages from teachers and administration in each of the schools we have delivered the Just Like You program in regarding the content and positive messages of inclusion and have them advocating to other schools on the benefits thus helping us continue our outreach and impact.

For the 2021 year, we have identified 5 Rocky View County schools (Langdon; Banded Peak; Ecole Elbow Valley; Westbrook and Sarah Thompson) with approximately 1372 students who we will deliver the Just Like You program to.

b) Region of Operation

Currently we are delivering the JLY program to schools in Rocky View County; Cochrane; Rocky View and Calgary. Though we are seeking to expand the program throughout the province (i.e. Edmonton and surrounding areas), our focus for 2021 in Calgary and surrounding areas will focus on the above stated communities.

c) Statement of Need

Perceptions of disability, whether accurate or not, shape the way that people with disabilities are treated. By intervening to increase knowledge and break down stereotypes, acceptance and attitudes toward people with disabilities can be improved.

There is the misconception that somehow people with a disability are different to people without a disability, and are not able to achieve, feel, do, create, and live the same as people without a disability

(Gorter, 2009). Because of this, individuals living with disabilities are often segregated, excluded and are more isolated than their “able-bodied” peers. These perceptions have a major influence on today’s assumptions about, and reactions to, disability. Consequently, the general public tends to overlook many positive impacts and meaningful contributions that children with disabilities make within their families, communities and society in general.

In addition, children living with disabilities are two to three times more likely to be bullied than their nondisabled peers, with 60% students with disabilities report being bullied weekly (British Journal of Learning Support, 2008). In addition, children living with disabilities are often socially excluded from activities and interactions leading to social isolation, low self esteem, poor physical health and depression.

According to new research by disability charity Scope out today, 67 per cent of people feel uncomfortable when talking to a disabled person.

“Much of the discomfort people feel about disability may stem from a lack of understanding. Not enough people know a disabled person – nearly half (43%) of the public say they do not know anyone who is disabled – and many are concerned that they will do or say the wrong thing when talking to disabled people or about disability. Our research shows that both the general public and disabled people believe that **more everyday interactions and greater public education about disability will increase understanding and acceptance of disabled people.**”

(<http://www.scope.org.uk/Scope/media/Images/Publication%20Directory/Current-attitudes-towards-disabled-people.pdf?ext=.pdf>)

d) Activities Used to Address the Need

JLY is a series of free and fun workshops delivered to primary school aged children to build understanding, acceptance and inclusion of individuals living with a disability.

Each child participates twice per year every second year throughout their elementary school years beginning in ECS up to and including grade 6).

These workshops have been reviewed and evaluated through best practices and has proven to be an effective information tool in helping children understand different disabilities that individuals may have; empathize with challenges that people living with a disability may face and understand the importance of using positive language.

Workshop themes are: Celebrating Difference, Creating Inclusion; Know the Facts to Better Impact; and Challenging Norms to Find the Extraordinary.

The program is delivered through an empathy lens and led by a person who lives with a disability themselves. The facilitator leads children through activities which are catalytic in changing attitudes and behaviours around disability, so children develop both an understanding and a desire to act to be more understanding and inclusive.

As children grow, the material grows with them to meet their cognitive growth, helping them to have better understanding of the Issues and how to make an impact in their own lives and in their communities.

e) Expected Outcomes

The program Just Like You™ will:

- Raise awareness and increase understanding and acceptance of people who are living with disabilities;
- Address the need to support a culture of inclusion, where all children regardless of ability or specialized need are accepted and celebrated and deserve to be positioned to succeed and achieve their own victories;
- Help children have a greater understanding of the potential of people with all types of disabilities;
- Provide opportunities for children to openly talk about differences and to develop an understanding of social responsibility; and
- Provide opportunities for children to talk about bullying and why children who may look or act differently want to play and have friends just like everybody else.

f) Agency/project mission. What is your mission and what are you currently doing to achieve your mission (e.g. other programs and services that are not a part of this application for funding)?

Variety – the Children’s Charity of Alberta supports children who are facing physical, developmental, emotional or learning challenges, through education, advocacy, and community outreach.

In collaboration with other service delivery organizations we are creating supportive, ability diverse communities that address safety, inclusive and accessible environments and supports the growth and development of children with specialized needs to gain greater independence and positive life experiences.

Vision: Variety Alberta enables all children with specialized needs to be an active part of their community.

Mission: Through community initiatives, partnerships and education, Variety Alberta enables inclusion, hope and independence for children who are facing physical, developmental, emotional or learning challenges.

We believe that:

- Barriers can be removed through education, increased awareness and creating environments of acceptance, understanding, and celebration of differences;
- Every child has the right to play and experience the simple pleasures of childhood; and

- We can have an inclusive and accessible Alberta for children who are facing physical, developmental, emotional or learning challenges.

The programs and initiatives that we engage in support creating inclusive communities where every child regardless of ability gets to be active, be social and belong.

Our charity has been around for 38 years, but in 2017 we changed the charitable focus from offering funding grants to families who have children living with disabilities, to delivering front line services. This change enabled us to be more effective with how we could support the disability community and address service delivery gaps within our province.

Other programs/initiatives we deliver:

Building Inclusive Playgrounds:

Play is a crucial part of building children's physical, social and intellectual skills and playgrounds create opportunities for breaking down barriers through interactive play and they offer teachable opportunities where people can see a person before disability.

Currently, there exists no current municipal, provincial or federal legislation around building parks to be inclusive and consequently most of the playgrounds that have been built and continue to be built are for status quo able bodied individuals thus leaving children and community members living with disabilities excluded from using them.

Variety Alberta supports municipal, community and school groups with building playgrounds to ensure that these playgrounds are built to include all community members regardless of age or ability. Since beginning this initiative in 2017, we have built 4 inclusive playgrounds in Calgary and surrounding areas and have supported a handful of school groups with adding inclusion into their playground projects.

Toddler Mobility Program: Go Baby Go (GBG)

Go Baby Go supports children with limited mobility using ride-on adaptive toy cars with push-button switches, supportive seating and communication devices to provide opportunities for children to move independently in ways that they otherwise would not be able to do on their own.

This program is a fun non-stigmatizing way for children who are not independently mobile to engage in play while experiencing therapeutic benefits, building muscle control and muscle memory and learning about their environment.

Volt Hockey

Volt hockey is an accessible form of hockey, played in a specially designed Hockey Sports Chair by people with a variety of disabilities that can range from mild to multiple complex. Unlike other wheelchair sports,

players are only required to be able to manipulate a joystick in order to play which allows for children who have complex disabilities to engage in play.

Volt hockey is a game changer for children with complex disabilities as it creates a unique opportunity for them to engage in a sport that was virtually impossible prior and creates opportunity, and builds connectedness, meaning and social relationships – all things needed to break down barriers and create inclusive communities for all children.

We were set to launch Volt in the fall of 2020 but with COVID 19, have had to delay its programming. We are now looking to launch in the early winter of 2021.

Sensory Backpacks

We were looking for ways to support children who live with sensory processing disabilities such as autism and in consult with many families who have children living with Autism/Asperger's, they talked about their children having outbursts or meltdowns due to overstimulation in places with lots of noises, bright lights and other external stimuli.

To support children in environments with an abundance of sensory stimuli, we created Sensory Backpacks as a strategy and tool that we will be making available for sign out free of use in grocery stores, shopping centres, and child friendly facilities such as at the Zoo, Telus Sparks and Indoor play spaces.

These backpacks contain a variety of sensory objects that can be used to both calm and focus a child's sensory system and help a child de-escalate in times of sensory overload. This in turn creates a more positive experience for the child and their family when on outings.

JLY 2021-FCSS Rocky View

Calculations					
Payroll	School	Classroom Hours	Rate	Total	
Facilitator	Langdon 166	8	16 25 +MERC	\$ 441.60	
	Westbrooke 126	6	12	\$ 331.20	
	Banded Peak 229	10	20	\$ 552.00	
	Sarah Thompson 358	14	24	\$ 662.40	
	Ecole EV 493	21	42	\$ 1,159.20	
Supervision and Revision of Materials to Online				\$ 2,000.00	
Admin Support (scheduling, booklets, etc.)			25 25 +MERC	\$ 690.00	
Sub Total Salaries				\$ 5,836.40	
Mileage Expenses	Uber/Taxi	Uber/Taxi	# of trips	Total	Notes
Sub Total Mileage					
Supplies	Cost per booklet	# booklets	Total Cost		
Total Students and Teachers		1464			
exercise booklets	\$1.10	1464	\$ 1,614.06	Cost Includes GST	
Delivery of booklets courier or mileage or post	\$75	5	\$ 375.00		
Sub Total Supplies			\$ 1,989.06		
Total Salaries+Mileage+Supplies				\$ 7,825.46	