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May 21, 2019

Jason Swanson  
Des Moines Business Record  
100 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Dear Jason,

It is our pleasure to join together in support of the nomination of Sheri McMichael for the 2019 Women of Influence recognition. Sheri has led the hugely meaningful work of Variety – The Children's Charity of Iowa for nearly twenty years and has impacted the lives of thousands of Iowa children and families through her work. She has attracted the most influential business and community leaders to join in the cause and has grown Variety to be admired by its peers on a global stage.

In addition to Sheri's leadership over Variety - The Children's Charity and the State of Iowa chapter, she has been a part of the leadership and driving force for change through Variety North America, and Variety International. Her nearly twenty years of service and leadership of Variety have presented the State of Iowa to receive the most highly accomplished award in terms of funds raised in the world, on a per-capita basis.

Sheri's work has earned her notable recognition nationally and globally, and locally she is known as a committed community leader working tirelessly to positively impact the lives of children facing adversity and challenges. The smiles she brings to the faces of children and positive change to the lives of the families impacted by the generosity of Variety. Smiles and lives changed due to her work.

Although this work keeps Sheri very busy, she is heavily involved in her family and faith-based life, as well. She is wife to husband; Mark, and mother to son, Sam. Between Variety events, you could often find Sheri bustling to make it to one of Sam's track meets during high school and his college years at Wartburg.

Thank you for considering Sheri for this recognition. Her commitment, can-do attitude and dedication to her work and our community make her an outstanding candidate for this prestigious award.

Sincerely,

Kristi Knous, President

Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines

and

Susan Hatten, Board Chair

Variety – The Children's Charity of Iowa