

Montgomery County Imagination Library annual report





My daughter enjoys spending time reading with her friends even at only 3 years old! - Starr, Dayton, OH

our success in numbers!



17,505 children
are receiving
books each month



413,719 books
have been mailed
to kids to date



7,186 kids
have graduated
from the program

The majority of parents participating in Imagination Library, nearly 81%, indicated participation in the program had increased the frequency of reading with their children

We are thrilled to be celebrating the third-year anniversary of the launch of the Montgomery County Imagination Library. This initiative, first started by Montgomery County and Dayton Children's Hospital in partnership with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Ohio, provides free books to local children five years old and younger, through a partnership with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. We are thrilled that more than 17,000 children have signed up for the Imagination Library program. This number represents nearly 50% of children ages 0 to 5 in Montgomery County!

The program would not be possible without community partners and funders who value literacy as a foundation for academic and life-long success. This year we were honored to have Dolly Parton visit Ohio to celebrate statewide success of the program. We were thrilled to partner with organizations including the Gem City Market, Preschool Promise, The Hope Center for Families, the Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association and many others to get the word out about this incredible program.

We want to thank the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Ohio, our funders, and partners for making this program available to children in Montgomery County. A special thank you goes to First Lady, Fran DeWine for her ongoing commitment to this program.

The program would not be a success without parents and caregivers who not only have signed up for the program but who are reading these incredible books regularly to their children. Together we are working to improve outcomes for children!

Sincerely,

Deborah A. Feldman

President and CEO
Dayton Children's Hospital

Carolyn Rice

Commissioner
Montgomery County



Dolly Parton visits Ohio!

The First Lady of Ohio's luncheon was honored to have the incomparable Dolly Parton share her passion for literacy and encourage enrollment. On August 9, 2022, Dolly Parton visited Ohio in celebration of accomplishing statewide success with all children under the age of 5 being eligible to enroll in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Ohio. To celebrate this accomplishment, the Coat of Many Colors book was dedicated to Ohio and a quilt was gifted to Dolly and the First Lady. The quilt squares were uniquely designed by a child from each local county.

Take me out to the ballgame!

The Dayton Dragons showed their support for literacy and Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Ohio by dedicating a home game to the program. The Dayton Dragons made a generous donation to help support the program. Imagination Library graduates were celebrated and presented a certificate signed by the First Lady. A special thank you to the Altrusa Club of Dayton for showing their support and signing up families to start receiving their free books!

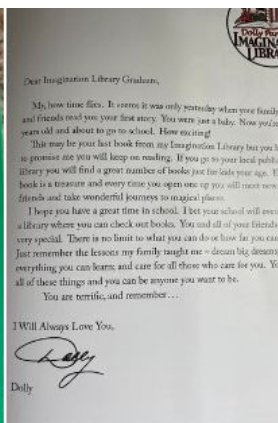
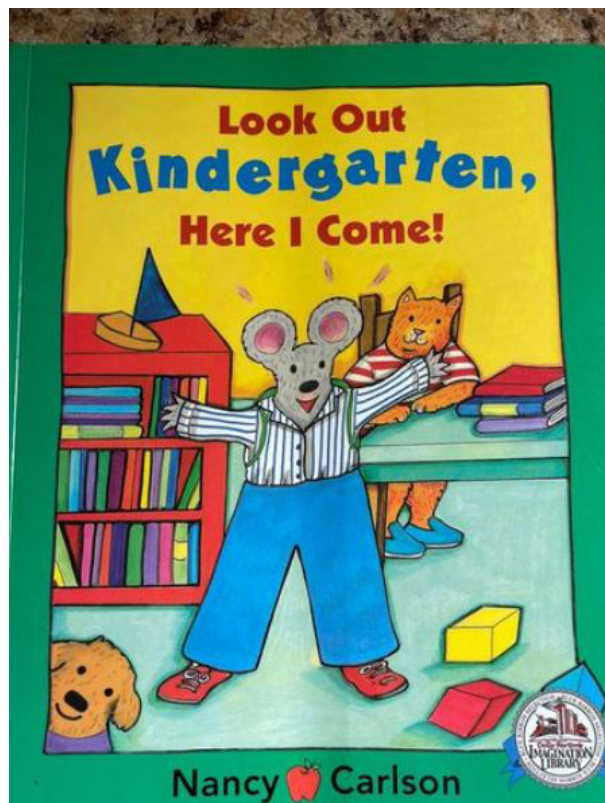
Enrolling newborns before they leave the birthing hospital

There has been a concentrated effort from Kettering Health and Premier Health to sign up newborns at the birthing hospitals. A special thank you for their work in increasing newborn enrollments. The average percent of registrations classified as newborn registrations increased to nearly 23% this year. Newborn enrollments will receive a total of 60 books from the program to help build a child's at home library! As we know, the longer a child is enrolled in the Imagination Library program, the greater the outcomes.

Dylan is ready for kindergarten thanks to Imagination Library!

Dylan, age 5, received his final book from the Imagination Library program, "Look Out Kindergarten, Here I Come." Here's what his parents had to say about the milestone:

"As if I didn't have enough to cry about today, this came in the mail. Dylan has received a book every month since he was born. Some we have read so many times they are falling apart. Some we can recite line by line. If you have a kid under 5, please see if your county is eligible for this program. It has been fantastic and Dylan won't be the only sad one that there won't be anymore Dolly in his mailbox."





This program would not be possible without the foundational support from the Dollywood Foundation and Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Ohio.

Montgomery County Imagination Library steering committee

Amber Cristofaro	Dayton Metro Library
Amy Anyanwu	Montgomery County Educational Services Center
Andrea White	Ohio House of Representatives
Ashtyn Liddy	Dayton Children's Hospital
Carolyn Rice	Montgomery County Commission
Elizabeth Lolli	Dayton Public Schools
Geraldine Pegues	Montgomery County
Hope Cypryla	Miami Valley Child Development Centers
Hope Vuto	Preschool Promise
Jeff Levine	Community Volunteer

Jessica Salem	Dayton Children's Hospital
Kelly Geers	Montgomery County Educational Services Center
Laura Engel	United Way of Greater Dayton
Lauren Williams	Junior League of Dayton
Lee Ann Bradfield	Montgomery County
Lindsay Maxam	The Tait Foundation
Michelle Beebe	Kettering Health
Teri Gulker	Premier Health
Tess Little	Altrusa Club of Dayton
Willis Blackshear	Ohio House of Representatives

a special thank you to our local funders!



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Dayton & Montgomery County



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
DAYTON

