

(DATE)

Dear (NAME),

As an affiliate of Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library, (ORGANIZATION NAME) is committed to creating an Arkansas that works for all children and all families, especially those most in need. Literacy is the foundation of a child’s education and helping kids thrive is our priority.

With generous funding support from the Arkansas Imagination Library (via the Arkansas Department of Education), we have partnered with the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program to mail a new book to each enrolled child every month at no cost to his or her family. The Arkansas Imagination Library provides a 50% match with local funds.

These books are critical to improving early childhood literacy across Arkansas. New research has shown that:

* The number of books in the home is a key indicator of academic success. In fact, children with just 25 books in the home are more likely to complete an additional two years of school.
* Early language development is critical to a child’s success. In fact, vocabulary development by age three has been shown to predict a child’s achievement by third grade.
* It is widely recognized that the best way to promote this language development is by reading aloud to children, and families participating in Imagination Library say they read together more often than their peers who aren’t participating in the program.
* Nationwide research has shown that after a community partners with Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library, Kindergarten Readiness assessments can rise by as much as 15% among participating children in comparison to children that are not enrolled.

We are working to make sure that every child in every zip code in (COUNTY) can receive the benefits of having books in their home. Every $1.05 raised provides one new book to a child and is matched by the Arkansas Imagination Library. Your support will make a real difference in the lives of Arkansas’ children. Please consider one of the following sponsorship levels to help (COUNTY) County children succeed inside the classroom and beyond.

10 children for one year $125 40 children for one year $500

20 children for one year $250 60 children for one year $750

30 children for one year $375 80 children for one year $1,000

Thank you for your consideration. Together we can give all children in Arkansas the building blocks they need for a bright future!

Sincerely,

(NAME)