



Fact Sheet | Rotary and The Dollywood Foundation's Dolly Parton Imagination Library

Partnership background

[Rotary's](#) service partnership with The Dollywood Foundation's [Dolly Parton Imagination Library](#) provides opportunities to collaborate in support of basic education by fostering a lifelong love of reading and learning from an early age. Through this partnership, children receive access to age-appropriate reading materials to help establish a strong educational foundation early in life.

About the Imagination Library

Launched by country music star Dolly Parton and The Dollywood Foundation, the Imagination Library provides pre-school aged children with a free hardcover book every month from birth to the age of five. Over 675,000 children under the age of five receive books from the Imagination Library each month. Over 40 million books have been donated to children since the program began in 1996. Currently, the Imagination Library has programs in over 1,700 communities across Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Program book selection

A committee of individuals with backgrounds in education, child development, academia, and early childhood literacy select age and culturally-appropriate books for distribution through the program.

Book mailing costs

The average cost of the books, labeling and mailing is US\$28.00; CAN\$43.00 and UK £24 per year per child. The only additional expense is the cost of registration brochures, which is based upon the size of the order. Organizations, groups, and individuals in the community can sponsor book mailings.

How can my Rotary club or district get involved?

Community groups help make the Imagination Library program work. Clubs are encouraged to:

- Promote the program to provide access to the program for all preschool children in their area
- Register children with the Imagination Library
- Sponsor books and mailing
- Design additional projects around book donations
- Help expand the Imagination Library program to a new community or country
- Share Imagination Library collaborations on [Rotary Showcase](#) (www.rotary.org/showcase) or email them to rotary.service@rotary.org. Success stories may be used as model projects on Rotary's website or in publications.

Once a child is registered, the Dollywood Foundation takes over sending the child a new book each month.

Additional Resources

[Communities in Action: A Guide to Effective Projects \(605A\)](#)

[Community Assessment Tools \(605C\)](#)

[Taking on a Literacy Project](#) (recorded webinar)

Rotary



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