

GIVE A GIFT TO A CHILD: A LIFELONG LOVE OF READING

The Sullivan County Imagination Library and its partners need your support in helping local children become lifelong readers. This project is a model of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library that was launched in 1996 for the children in her hometown of Sevier County, Tennessee. The Imagination Library is a specially chosen collection of books designed to spark a lifelong love of reading. As of July 1, 2004, all children who are between birth and five years old, and are residents of Sullivan County (including Bluff City, Bristol, and Kingsport), are eligible to register for our newly organized project. Children will begin receiving an age-appropriate book of their very own each month in the mail until they reach five years of age—sixty books in all if signed up at birth. Enrolling a child in the *Sullivan County Imagination Library* is done at no cost to the parent—simply our gift of reading to a child.

The evaluation of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library by the *High/Scope Educational Research Foundation* (a highly respected education research firm) states that:

- Parents overwhelmingly report that Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program is effective at increasing time spent reading with children, making children more interested in books, making parents more comfortable reading to children, and increasing parent awareness of their children's reading levels.*
- A child's excitement about the arrival of books in the mail was strongly associated with parent reports of program effectiveness.*
- The greatest effects were shown for families that needed literacy support the most: those with lower education levels, higher incidence of lone-parents, and with lower total numbers of children's books.*

It is estimated that Sullivan County has approximately 8,500 eligible children for whom we desire to find sponsors. Your generous gift of \$27 is needed to assure that **ONE** child will receive a book each month per year. Please understand that the more you give, the more children we can serve. In addition, you may request your business logo to be printed on bookends if you choose to become a champion or sponsor in purchasing these for our children, with each set of bookends costing \$14. Of course, we encourage you to consider endowment funding to guarantee the success of children for years to come. Individuals and / or organizations that desire to make a financial contribution to sponsor children for the *Sullivan County Imagination Library* project should make checks payable to, and send their tax-deductible donation to:

Sullivan County Imagination Library

149 Pactolus Rd.
Kingsport, TN 37663

Contact information: Jan Miles: 423.239.8242 or jmiles@chartertn.net; Carrie Schwartz: 423.282.1147 or carrielibrary@yahoo.com .

Donor Name _____ Contribution \$ _____

Address _____

Company Name _____

I pledge the above amount for _____ years.

Board Book Member
\$25,000 and up

Gold Book Member
\$15,000-\$24,999

Silver Book Member
\$10,000-\$14,999

Purple Book Member
\$5,000-\$9,999

Red Book Member
\$3,000-\$4,999

Green Book Member
\$2,000-\$2,999

Yellow Book Member
\$1,000-\$1,999

White Book Member
\$500-\$999

Blue Book Member
\$100-\$499

Orange (Volunteer) Book Member
\$27-\$99

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I wish to make a contribution of \$_____ to the Endowment Fund to help assure continuous funding for years to come.

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