Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library of Knox County mails one new, age-appropriate book each month to any Knox County child from birth until age five at no cost to the family.

Anything associated with Dolly Parton is sure to make people happy. But Imagination Library is more than just a feel-good program: the body of evidence on early brain development shows the importance of reading to young children. Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library certainly makes people happy, but more importantly, it changes lives.

By providing a book every month to children from birth to age five, Imagination Library encourages early experiences with story, words, shapes, and colors that help prepare children for kindergarten. Research shows that those first few years with books in the home will have a long-term impact on success in school. Knox County Public Library is proud to provide the administrative home to Imagination Library of Knox County, and we are grateful to our generous community for supporting the program.

FUNDING SOURCES - $599,036

- GOVERNOR’S BOOKS FROM BIRTH: $251,899
- UNITED WAY: $87,000
- SPECIAL EVENTS: $87,417
- BUSINESS & CORPORATE DONORS: $80,655
- GRANTS: $44,000
- FAMILY FOUNDATIONS & INDIVIDUALS: $35,000
- SMALL DONORS: $15,065

Governor’s Books from Birth Foundation pays for 50% of all costs of books and mailing.

EXPENSES - $545,856

- BOOKS: $503,798
- SPECIAL EVENTS: $28,748
- OTHER: $13,310

JULY 2016 WE REACHED 74% OF KNOX CO. CHILDREN

JUNE 2017 WE REACHED 79% OF KNOX CO. CHILDREN
EXTRAORDINARY EVENING HONORS FIRST LADY CRISSY HASLAM

March 30, 2017 | It is fitting that our First Lady was the first person honored by Imagination Library of Knox County at its inaugural fundraiser. She recognized the power of this program from the very beginning and threw her talents and energy into getting it started in Knox County. From there, as First Lady of Tennessee, she has dedicated her service to family literacy.

The night, Under the Big Top, was extraordinary as The Mill and Mine was transformed into a vintage circus complete with acrobats. The event raised more than $60,000 for books and mailing. Kudos to the planning committee, led by Rachel Kinney, for creating an unforgettable evening.