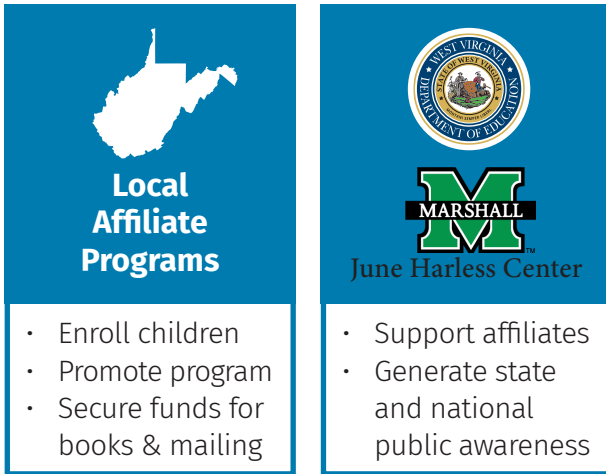
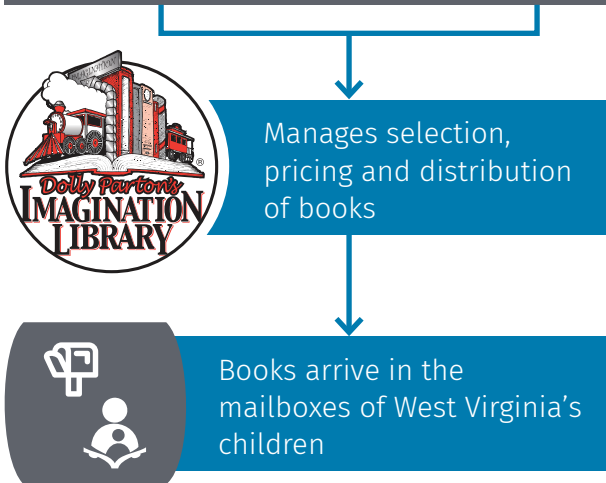


West Virginia's Model



Average Delivered Cost: \$2.60 per book



West Virginia Statistics

5 Million Books

mailed to WV children since 2006

52,000 Children

receive books monthly

All 55 Counties

served in West Virginia

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in partnership with Marshall University's June Harless Center are fostering a love of reading among West Virginia's children. Books are addressed to the children and delivered to their homes monthly at no cost to families.

The long-term goal is to ensure that every child has access to high-quality age-appropriate literature prior to entering school to maximize early learning, family engagement, and academic success



State Contacts



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Promoting early literacy for West Virginia's birth to age five population.



Sponsor a Child's Home Library
Enter: 'Imagination Library' in the 'Fund Designation' selection menu

Key Stakeholders



Policymakers and Funders have significant influence in directing resources and catalyzing partnerships to adopt, scale, and take full advantage of opportunities with Imagination Library.

Parents and Caregivers are children's first teachers, and set the course for developing their children's love of books and reading. Reading to children who are ages birth to five can improve their future reading ability and academic success.

Educators and Community Leaders validate the impact and continued progress as young students develop reading skills. Reducing the literacy gap in the early years allows teachers a better start with developing lifelong learners.

Affiliates and Community Partners offer the connection point, drive local awareness, enroll local children, and pay the wholesale cost of the books and mailing each month.

How YOU Can Help

Get Connected! Connect with local or state affiliates to let them know you are interested in supporting the program.

Spread the Word! Utilize your position as a community leader to communicate the value of the program for children and families in your community.

Sponsor a Child! Your donation of \$31 will sponsor a child from a participating county to receive a full year's worth of books delivered directly to his/her home.

Invest in Early Literacy

- 80% of physical brain development occurs in the first three years of life, as babies form over 1 million new neural connections per second.¹
- Later in life, at-risk children who do not receive high-quality early childhood experiences are 25% more likely to drop out of school, 40% more likely to become teen parents, and 60% less likely to attend college.²
- Investment in high-quality early childhood programs for at-risk children from birth to age five delivers a 13% annual return on investment through improved education, health, social, and economic outcomes, increased productivity, and the reduced need for social spending.³

¹ <https://www.zerotothree.org/espanol/brain-development>

² <https://buffettinstitute.nebraska.edu/about-the-early-years>

³ <https://heckmanequation.org/resource/invest-in-early-childhood-development-reduce-deficits-strengthen-the-economy/>

Why Early Literacy Matters

Reading aloud is widely recognized as the **single most important** activity leading to literacy acquisition.

Vocabulary development by **ABC age 3** predicts achievement by 3rd grade.

Children with as few as **25 Books** in the home complete an average of 2 more years of schooling than those with no books.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a book gifting program that mails free books to children from birth to age five in participating communities within the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, and Australia.



Provide the gift of literacy for all children birth to age five.



Inspire children to love books and reading.



Support parents and communities in fostering a child's success.

Together, we are making a difference.