



Greene County Public Library  
FOUNDATION



*Inspire a love of reading*

# 2022 IMPACT REPORT





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# 500,000 books in 10 years

Half a million.

Thanks to you and many of your neighbors, we've delivered more than 500,000 books in Greene County through Dolly Parton's Imagination Library! This November will mark 10 years of engaging local families in the Imagination Library – 10 years of giving our children and their families the gift of literacy.



The Imagination Library in Greene County thrives because of many of you – folks across Greene County who tell others about the Imagination Library, who sign up their children to receive books, individual donors and sponsors who are committed to their family, friends, and neighbors – our community – to make sure our children have every opportunity to be successful and live their best life.

The Imagination Library is a powerful part of Greene County Public Library's focus on early literacy, from 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten, to weekly storytimes across the county, and so much more. You and your contributions help us continue to set up our youngest community leaders for success.

Please take a few moments to read through this impact report to see just how far we've come in the last 10 years – and how much farther we plan to go to set our kids up for success through early literacy.

On behalf of the Foundation Board of Trustees, we thank you for your continued interest and commitment to all of our children in Greene County.

**Brian Lusardi**

Board Chair

**Karl Colón**

Executive Director, Greene County Public Library

# Greene County Public Library Foundation Board of Trustees

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# Young Reader Highlight

**“I would encourage every parent to enroll their children in the imagination library because I have seen the joy and educational benefits it brings my son. It's so wonderful to get a new book each month in the mail to read and share with your children. We're very grateful to Dolly Parton and The Imagination Library in Greene County!”**

– Elizabeth Plummer



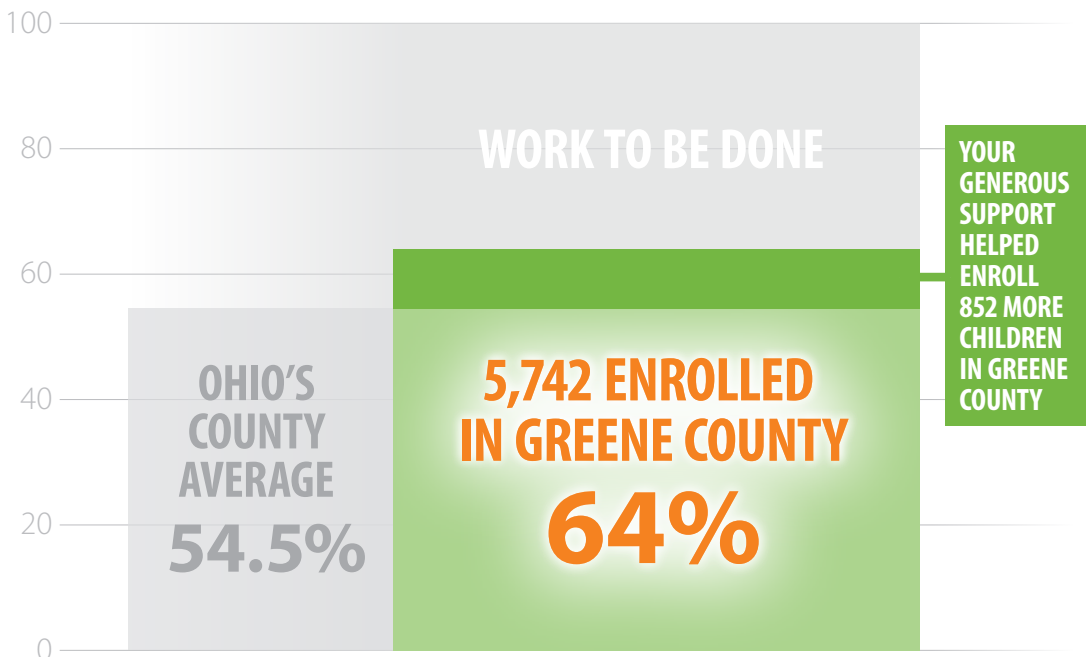
*Elizabeth Plummer and son Richard enjoying an Imagination Library book together.*

# Strengthening Families

## Greene County: Top Ten Enrollment Percentage in Ohio

**6<sup>th</sup>**  
of 888

- 1 Mercer
- 2 Pickaway
- 3 Muskingum
- 4 Miami
- 5 Shelby
- 6 Greene**
- 7 Athens
- 8 Union
- 9 Logan
- 10 Lawrence



Your above-and-beyond support means we're sending more Greene County children into kindergarten with a big learning advantage!

## PROGRAM IMPACT

# Fueling their Imaginations

The Imagination Library started having a direct impact from its launch in November 2013. Four years later we had more than 5,000 Greene County children enrolled in the program. Annual new enrollments have remained above 5,000 every year since then.

*All data as of April 2023*



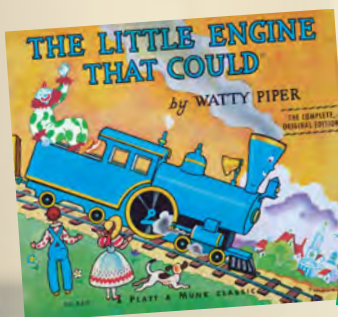
ENROLLED  
**5,742**

GRADUATED  
**10,530**

TOTAL  
**16,272**



The first book that a child receives when they enroll in the Imagination Library is "The Little Engine That Could" by Watty Piper. The last book they receive is "Look Out Kindergarten, Here I Come!" by Nancy Carlson. It's a perfect story to let our children know they're ready for kindergarten!



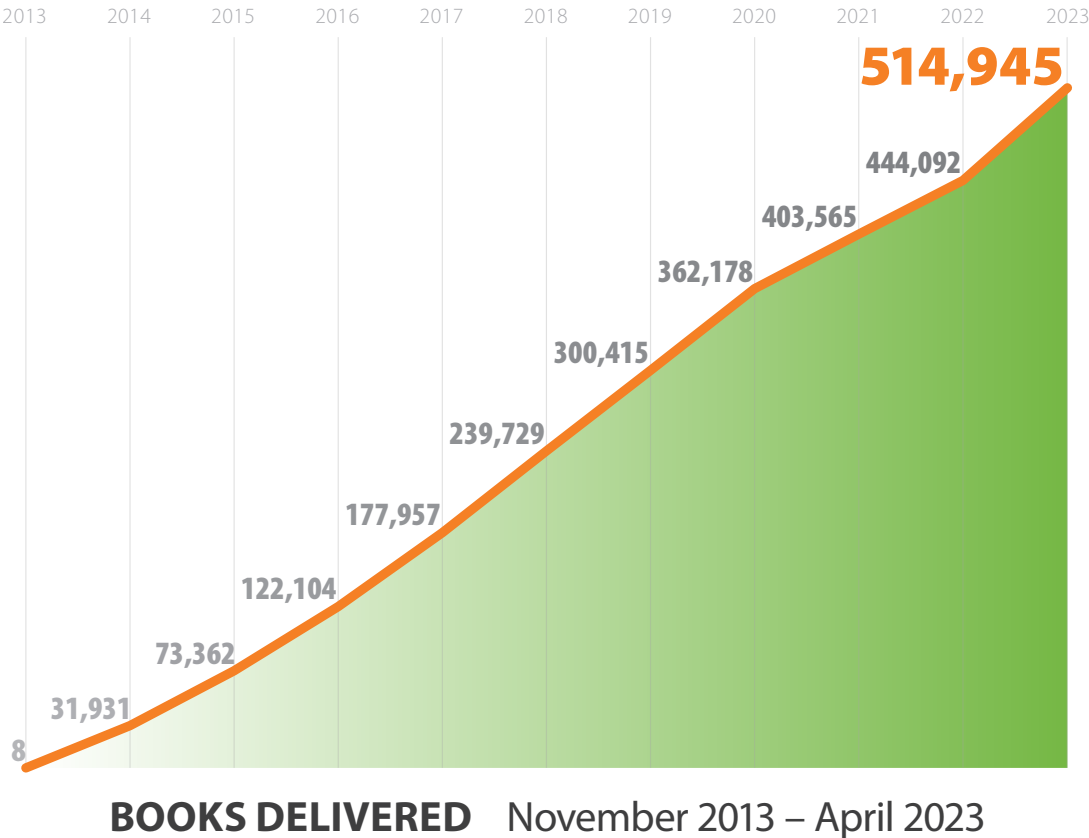


# Look Out, Here I Come!

Approximately 1,000 children graduate from Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library every year – all told, our collective efforts have impacted more than 16,000 local children!

# From Mailbox to Bookshelf

Parents tell us so many inspiring and heartwarming stories about the ways that their children’s ‘Dolly books’ make a difference. Although it may seem a small detail, one of the comments we hear often is how excited their child is when the mail comes. They get mail, in their name, from Dolly Parton!



# Kids who read, succeed!



Want to learn more about DPIL impact? Visit our website at [greenlibraryfoundation.org/imagination-library](https://greenlibraryfoundation.org/imagination-library)

# Young Reader Highlight

“The Imagination Library provided so many quality books for our family throughout the years my sons were enrolled in the program. So many of the books became family favorites. Because of the activities and talking points included with each book, my sons and I interacted with the stories in ways we didn’t interact with other volumes on our shelves. We baked cakes, sang songs, and retold the stories in our own words. I am so thankful that the books caused us to read deeply and create those memories together. Our whole family is so grateful that we were able to have so many free books come to our house for so many years”

– Erin Kloosterman



Silas (left) and Owen (right) showing off their Imagination Library books.

# Early Literacy Highlight

Early literacy is one of the key building blocks to setting up a child for success in the classroom. While Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a great way to introduce your little ones to different kinds of books, GCPL is committed to early literacy through additional library initiatives your child can participate in from their earliest days.



Reading with your baby, toddler, or preschooler is one of the best ways to help them become a lifelong reader and learner, and at GCPL we encourage you to do this at home and at the library. Your librarians are well equipped to help you and your little one during their early literacy journey, so don't be afraid to ask about and take advantage of all the amazing resources available including 1000 Books Before Kindergarten, educational Launchpad tablets, Storywalks in your favorite community parks, storytimes at your library, and so much more!



*Abigail & Aaron Hart  
Fairborn patrons*

# Foresight and Commitment

We would not be here without the ongoing commitment from United Way of the Greater Dayton Area and Kettering Health. Both organizations have the distinction of funding the Imagination Library in Greene County from the beginning.

United Way has been our largest donor every year. Kettering Health, in addition to their financial contributions, have been true visionaries, establishing a policy at Soin Medical Center to enroll every baby born there in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.



**United Way of the  
Greater Dayton Area**





# Raise a Glass TO READING



Thank you!

In October of 2022, we held the eighth annual Raise a Glass to Reading fundraiser. Friends and neighbors gathered once again to show their support at Caesar Creek Vineyards to share a fantastic evening!

We came together to raise \$14,150 for the Imagination Library in Greene County. This contribution alone was enough to support 113 Greene County kids throughout their entire five-year enrollment with a book mailed to their house every month.

We count on our sponsors to make the event a success. Thank you to our sponsors: Anderson Williamson Insurance, the Rotary Club of Xenia, Aspen Land Title Agency, and to Ed Marrinan and Neil Webster who both donated personally at a sponsor level.

*We hope to see you again this year on Tuesday, October 3 at Caesar Creek Vineyards for Raise A Glass To Reading, made possible by our sponsors:*



*This year your ticket includes a raffle drawing entry, a commemorative pin, Caesar Creek Vineyards wine, and a meal from Current Cuisine.*



**Purchase your ticket at [RaiseAGlassToReading.org](https://RaiseAGlassToReading.org)**



Greene County Public Library  
**FOUNDATION**

**The Greene County Public Library Foundation**

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