



Greene County Public Library
FOUNDATION

Building our children's *Success*



2025 IMPACT REPORT

Proud Mom, Happy Son

"We found out about the Imagination Library from one of our Fairborn librarians when Nathan was two years old. One of the books he had to read over and over was *Good Night, Gorilla!* Now that he's graduated and doesn't receive his own books, he reads his younger brother's books with him."



Beatrice Byerman

*Beatrice
and Nathan
Byerman
at Nathan's
Imagination
Graduation
event in May
of 2024.*



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2024 Foundation Giving



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Help our Library feed hungry minds!

Welcome to this year's Impact Report! Whether you are a longtime supporter or seeing this for the first time, we're confident you'll experience what we do every year – the Greene County Public Library (GCPL) is one of our county's most treasured assets.

The Library's programs and initiatives bring immediate and lasting impact to our communities and the county. We're particularly excited this year because the Foundation is on the move. For more than ten years, we've supported GCPL's work growing Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. We've had stunning success – two out of every three children are now in the program.

Our GCPL continues to WOW! us

After the pandemic hit in 2020, GCPL responded quickly and efficiently to two troubling developments: a sharp rise in food insecurity and challenges to student success across all grade levels. The Library launched two innovative programs to address these issues. They sought and received State Library of Ohio and Federal funding to launch *Snacks!* and Level Up Tutoring. They partnered with local food programs such as Feed the Creek. They reached out to the Greene County Retired Teachers Association and others to enlist tutors. By the fall of 2021, GCPL was feeding and tutoring kids through its seven community libraries.

The pandemic and outside funding ended in 2022, yet GCPL has experienced rising needs for both of these programs. For two years, they have worked diligently to provide these community-supported services, finding ways to stretch their public funding to make them work.

But it isn't a sustainable model. The Library and our kids need your help.



Feeding children's bodies and minds for long term success

The Foundation wants to make sure these programs are sustainable, so we decided to expand our focus to include these two programs. We are launching the Growing Up Greene Campaign in support of GCPL's 2025-26 priorities, their Snacks! and Level Up Tutoring programs.

These programs represent our commitment to Greene County children from birth through graduation. This report details our impact over the past two years. We hope to inspire you to join us on our journey in the months and years to come!

Molly McHarg

Board Chair

Karl Colón

*Executive Director,
Greene County Public Library*

Strong Libraries Make Strong Communities

The best and most effective way to strengthen a community is through public libraries. Here in Greene County, our library is amazing. They strengthen communities one person at a time – focusing on the special relationships forged between patron and librarian. They are dedicated champions of our community's hopes and dreams and build partnerships throughout Greene County.

We promote children's success and move libraries forward through innovative programs such as *Snacks!*, Level Up Tutoring, and Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.



Kids who read, succeed!

PROGRAM IMPACT SPARKING THEIR IMAGINATIONS

BOOKS DELIVERED
648,388

ENROLLED
6,247

GRADUATED
13,015

TOTAL
19,262



All data as of Dec. 2024



The Imagination Library had an immediate impact at 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.

Special thanks to our program sponsors

United Way of the
Greater Dayton Area



"My daughter Rilynn loved getting books in the mail addressed to her. We would read every night, and she always wanted to reread the Dolly books. And now, Rilynn's love for reading has influenced the younger children I nanny...she reads to them in the car. After first grade, she was reading at a third-grade level."

**MaryBeth Pagett, Mother / Caregiver,
Fairborn Community Library Patron**

Get started or share
with friends & family!

Want to see and hear their
full conversation? Watch it on
our website by snapping the
QR code or visiting
greenelibrary
foundation.org/
imagination-library



*MaryBeth and Fairborn Youth Librarian,
Ms. Caitlin, discussing how the Imagination
Library has grown her family's love of reading*

Celebrating your impact!



In 2024, GCPL Youth Services librarians hosted the first ever Imagination Graduation. They celebrated young patrons aging out of Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library. Led by Youth Services Coordinator Kim Bautz, they brought families together to applaud parents and caregivers for the love and care they provide their children and to cheer on graduates as they head to kindergarten. The morning featured activities, refreshments, and of course, photos with Booker. It was a joy to see these children light up when they received their diploma and proudly showed their families.



We came together at Caesar Creek Vineyards for our 2024 fundraiser and shared a fantastic evening. You helped us raise more than \$27,000 for the Imagination Library in Greene County, which will allow us to support over 100 kids throughout their five-year enrollment. Please join us in thanking our program and event sponsors. The Imagination Library would not be successful without their ongoing support.

2024 Event Sponsors



Bonnie Craft Realtor
Bruce Newell
Burton Hagler
Friends of the Beavercreek Library
Friends of the Fairborn Library
Friends of the Xenia Library

G.A. White Homes
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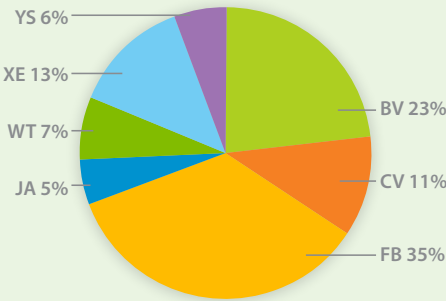
Molly McHarg
Stewart & Theresa McHarg
O’Diam & Estess Law
Stewart Title Company, Aspen Land Title Division

Kids who don't eat, don't read

PROGRAM IMPACT FEEDING THEIR BODIES

NUMBER OF
SNACKS GIVEN
185,016

DISTRIBUTION BY COMMUNITY



Snacks!

GCPL provides year-round, nutritious snacks at all seven of their community libraries. Snacks are available whenever the Library is open. It is heart-warming to see kids excited, participating in programming and reading, and enjoying time at their community library.

“As a library patron, one of the things I love most about the *Snacks!* program is they provide nutritious snacks at every one of their convenient locations. Snacks are available any time they’re open and there’s no stigma.

“As a part of the GCPL Foundation board, it’s heartbreaking that we need this program with so many who are hungry in our community. We know that kids who don’t eat, don’t read. It’s why I’m thrilled we decided to launch Growing Up Greene – we feed hungry bellies so the library can feed hungry minds. How perfect!”

Molly McHarg, Chair
Greene County Public Library Foundation



The Kiwanis Key Club at Carroll High School making snack bags for the Carol Graff Beaver Creek Library

Working for success

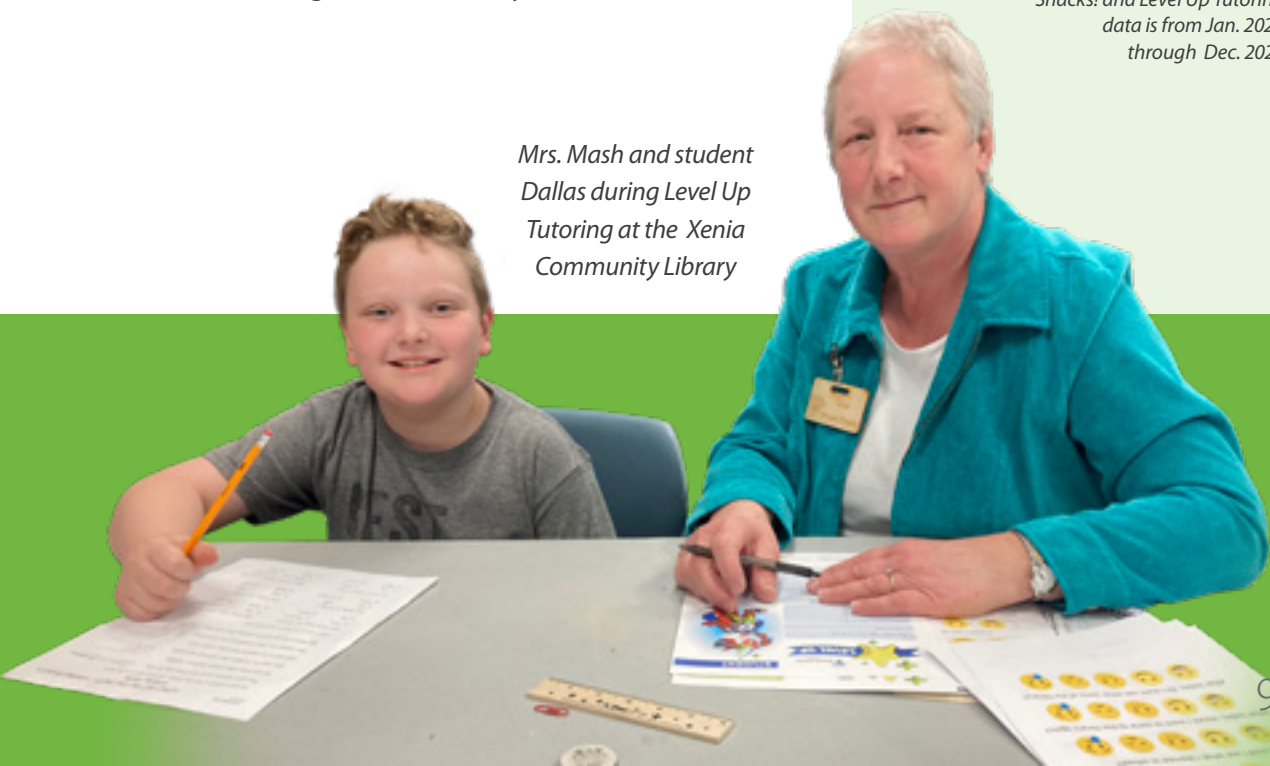
Level Up Tutoring

With a vetted and dedicated team of more than 35 retired teachers, university professors, and education majors, Level Up Tutoring delivers weekly tutoring sessions through all seven GCPL Community Libraries.

“Level Up is set up to meet the specific needs of each student. One-on-one tutoring such as this allows students to catch up or move forward at their own pace. I believe small daily successes add up, and I’ve always enjoyed helping students do their best!”

**Cindy Mash, Level Up Tutor,
retired Greeneview High School
English Teacher of 32 years**

*Mrs. Mash and student
Dallas during Level Up
Tutoring at the Xenia
Community Library*

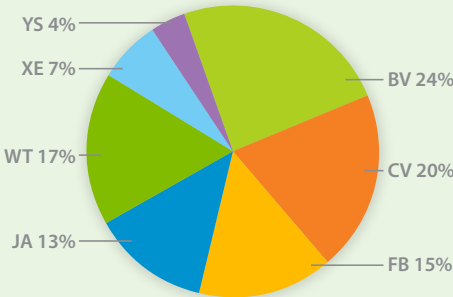


PROGRAM IMPACT FUELING THEIR MINDS

NUMBER OF
SESSIONS
1,166

NUMBER OF
STUDENTS
6,960

DISTRIBUTION BY COMMUNITY



*Snacks! and Level Up Tutoring
data is from Jan. 2023
through Dec. 2024*

2024 Foundation Giving

Growing Up
GREENE
Campaign

GCPL's Growing Up Greene Initiative:

Sparkling our children's imagination from birth to age 18

**In support of GCPL's
2025 priorities: *Snacks!*
and Level Up Tutoring**

2025 PROGRAM COSTS

Snacks!	\$144,000
Level Up Tutoring	\$114,800
Total	\$258,800

Literacy and Learning:

Curated catalogs, collaborations with schools, online resources

Programs and Activities:

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, Storytimes, teen programs

Events and Community:

Imagination Graduation, Summer Reading Club, Teen Fan Fest

GIFT INCOME

Unrestricted	\$34,203
Dolly Parton Imagination Library-Greene County	\$47,213
Growing up Greene Campaign	\$232,250
Endowment Bequest – \$125,250	
Bequest – \$107,000	
INVESTMENT INCOME	\$6,152
TOTAL	\$319,818

EXPENDITURES

Operations	\$5,761
Fundraising Events	\$3,802
Dolly Parton's Imagination Library-Greene County	\$58,860
Growing Up Greene	\$935
TOTAL	\$69,358

Celebrate our kids Growing Up Greene

*Booker the Fox was on hand at
May's Imagination Graduation,
cheering this year's Dolly graduates
as they head to kindergarten.*





Greene County Public Library
FOUNDATION

The Greene County Public Library Foundation
A component of Greene County Community Foundation
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