

We are getting ready to take on a project that will make a difference to every family with a 0-5 year old in our school district! **Will you join us in bringing [Dolly Parton's Imagination Library](#) to Johnson Creek?**

There couldn't be a better time to make a difference. During the pandemic, young children need every educational support they can get. The DPIL delivers one book per month to children from birth until age 5, and any child who lives in the Johnson Creek School District is eligible, regardless of income.

Imagine the joy that receiving a personalized book in the mail brings to a child at a time when even leaving the house can be a challenge. You can play a part in fostering that joy, the family bonding that occurs when reading to a child, and a lifelong love of reading. It's amazing how the simple things can really enrich our lives when life seems so complicated.

To start us out, Ann Riall and her husband are graciously donating the funds necessary for the first year of the program. Thank you, Ann, for your generosity and support!!

We are asking for your time and talents for a successful implementation and to sustain this community program for years to come. Volunteers can join one of three workgroups: **Fundraising**, **Implementation**, and **Partnerships**. These three pieces are important to the successful rollout and continuation of the program.

- The **Fundraising** workgroup will identify ways to raise money, whether that means doing fundraisers, asking businesses and individuals for donations, applying for appropriate grants, or any other fundraising method. The first year is expected to cost about \$700-\$800, and by the fifth year it's predicted to be about \$3,500, depending on enrollment. (It costs us \$25.20 per child per year - a steal for 12 books delivered mailed to the child!) If you like research and are bold enough to ask for money, please join us!
- The **Implementation** group will discuss ways to help roll out the program. Ideally, this will be in early June to coincide with the Library's kickoff of the Summer Learning/Reading Program. This group will also determine the best ways to implement the day-to-day management of the program after the initial rollout. If you have a knack for organizing, this is the group for you!
- The **Partnerships** group will determine which businesses/entities to partner with in order to reach as many parents of infants and young children as possible in our school district. Those in this group may also help contact those entities. If you have connections in and around the community, we need you!

Putting books into the hands of Johnson Creek's young children is worth our time and effort; the benefits of early literacy increase exponentially throughout life, and positively impact the community. Thank you for your willingness to join us in providing this opportunity for parents that will improve the lives of our youngest children.

If you or anyone you know would be interested in helping, or if you have questions, please contact Jenny Malueg at jmalueg@gmail.com, Ann Riall at rialla@uww.edu, or Pat Giese at 204serenityct@gmail.com. In your email, please indicate which group you would like to join. You do not need to be a member of the Friends to help, but what better time to join? Meet new people, add to your resume and your skill set, support literacy and our library, and make a difference! The dues are \$10 per year, but we are not collecting dues at this time due to Covid.