

McClellanville@outlook.com

From: BEGIN WITH BOOKS <beginwithbooks@palmettoproject.org>
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2026 11:01 AM
To: mcclellanville@outlook.com
Subject: BEGIN WITH BOOKS - Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in Charleston County

Dear Mayor:

In Charleston County, we have a wonderful and EFFECTIVE early childhood literacy initiative that we call **BEGIN WITH BOOKS**, but it's at risk due to funding constraints. We hope that you are in a position to help us continue to provide these books free to the families who receive them.

Every month, to the delight of almost almost 5,000 children, Dolly Parton Imagination Library books find their way across **Charleston County**. And, Palmetto Project, as the local program partner, we must pay for those books and postage every month - and have since our inception in 2010.

The Imagination Library is one of the most widely researched early literacy programs in the country, and the results are clear. Children who grow up with books at home experience meaningful gains in language development, school readiness, attention span, and long-term academic success. A landmark two-decade study found that simply having a home library can strengthen vocabulary, improve academic performance, and even influence future job opportunities.

A special request: Today, we need your help to cover the cost of providing books for enrolled children who are just starting their reading adventures, and someday will realize that it was their friends and neighbors who made this time of exploration and discovery possible. If you are able, please make a secure, tax-deductible [donation here](#).

Or, checks can be sent to:

BEGIN WITH BOOKS

c/o Palmetto Project
6296 Rivers Avenue, Suite 100
North Charleston, SC 29406

Your donation will **will provide the youngest children in Charleston County easy access to high-quality, age-appropriate, and culturally diverse (see the list here: [books](#)) through DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY.**

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Nell Killoy and Anna Gray
Your BEGIN WITH BOOKS team
An initiative of Palmetto Project
6296 Rivers Avenue, Suite 100
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