



*** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ***

Southampton County and City of Franklin Now Offer Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Williamsburg, Virginia (2/11/2026) – QuickStart Children of Virginia (QCV) is pleased to report [Dolly Parton's Imagination Library](#) (DPIL) program for kids under age five is now available in Southampton County and the City of Franklin. The program, launched last week with [Early Childhood Western Tidewater](#) as the Local Program Partner, will benefit more than 1,400 children. Startup funding for the program was generously provided by Franklin Southampton Charities, an anonymous donor and several individuals. Online enrollment is now open (see QR codes below).



City of Franklin



Southampton



Lorraine Whitehead, Executive Director of Early Childhood Western Tidewater (ECWT), says, "Research states that children having books in their home is the number one indicator of reading success. We want to afford the children of the

City of Franklin and Southampton County that opportunity. It is each generation's responsibility to prepare the next generation for a healthy, happy life on this planet. Literacy is the number one factor that determines the difference between school success or failure and a good paying job or no job. Education breaks the poverty cycle and with the help of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, we are opening doors to opportunity by nurturing a love of reading from the very beginning."

Lynda Harrill, QCV Founder, adds, "Southampton County is one of my favorite areas in Virginia because I love peanuts and the people there are so welcoming. Lorraine and Mary Bradshaw, ECTW Director of Marketing, are such pleasures to work with. Their enthusiasm for early childhood education is genuine and contagious. As a bonus,

Lorraine is going to look wonderful in a Dolly wig. Can't wait to get photos of 'Dolly' promoting the program at local events."

*Want to be a great adult?
Play tennis! Read books!
Eat healthy! Have FUN!!!
Be a QuickStart kid!*

QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia, Inc. (aka QuickStart Children of Virginia) is an all-volunteer, grassroots Community Tennis Association established in 2009 as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization to promote, develop and grow QuickStart Tennis in Virginia for all beginners, especially underserved and at-risk youth, using the kid-sized QuickStart Tennis format. We leverage the fun of tennis to promote lifelong physical activity, healthy eating/lifestyle habits and a love of reading in the communities we serve. We believe early childhood literacy will solve many socioeconomic problems and produce kids who will succeed in school and in life.

Visit QCV at www.quickstartcentral.org and on [Facebook](#).

For additional information, contact quickstartcentral@comcast.net.



A racquet in every hand! A smile on every face!



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