

December 6, 2022

NEWS ADVISORY

Contact: Jacinda Morigeau
jacinda@missoulaunitedway.org
406.298.3416



United Way
of Missoula County



United Way of Missoula County Celebrates Delivery of 250,000th book through Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Missoula – This winter United Way of Missoula County delivered the 250,000th children's book to a local child since launching Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in 2015. To commemorate this, United Way is hosting an invitation-only celebration for young readers and their families at Missoula Public Library on Saturday, December 10, from 10-11:30 a.m., plus a virtual book tournament – open to all – to find out which children's book ranks supreme. Everyone is encouraged to participate in the voting and follow along on Instagram @unitedway_missoula.

The Saturday celebration is invitation-only but coverage is invited and interviews will be available. The event features book-readings, refreshments, and craft projects for kids.

Started by Dolly Parton in 1995, Imagination Library is a book gifting program that mails free, high-quality, new books to children from birth to age five, no matter their family's income. Imagination Library is one of the cornerstones of United Way's educational initiatives. "We know that when our youngest community members are supported and given enriching early learning experiences, they can grow and flourish," said United Way chief executive officer Susan Hay Patrick.

United Way of Missoula County administers and funds the program for Missoula and Mineral counties, mailing a book to about 5,000 children each month.

Parents of children ages birth to five years may register them to receive a monthly book through Imagination Library: <https://imaginationlibrary.com/usa/affiliate/MTMISSOULA/>.

United Way of Missoula County brings people together to identify problems and craft creative, lasting solutions that change lives and build a stronger community for everyone. Visit MissoulaUnitedWay.org for more information.

###