

Got questions for the GBBF?

Office: (615) 253-3600

Toll-Free: (866) 368-6371

[www.GovernorsFoundation.org](http://www.GovernorsFoundation.org)

## The Governor's Books from Birth Foundation and Teenagers ✿ An Extraordinary Partnership ✿

### About the Governor's Books from Birth Foundation (GBBF)

In June 2004, Governor Phil Bredesen created the non-partisan, not-for-profit *Governor's Books from Birth Foundation*® (GBBF) to make Dolly Parton's Imagination Library a statewide program in Tennessee. Initially charged with setting up each county's Imagination Library through partnerships with not-for-profit organizations in each county, GBBF staff now serves these existing teams of hard-working county volunteers throughout the state in every way possible.

Because of this dedicated grass-roots effort, county Imagination Libraries grow by leaps and bounds every month:

- **All of Tennessee's 375,000 children under age five** now have access to the Imagination Library and can receive a free, age-appropriate, hardcover book every month from birth until their fifth birthday.
- More than **190,000 Tennessee children** will receive a free book in March 2008.
- Enrollment numbers increase by **2,000 to 4,000 children** each month.

### About the Imagination Library

- Dolly Parton created the Imagination Library in 1996 for the children in her home town of Sevierville, TN. The program provides a new, age-appropriate, hardcover book every month to children from birth to age five at no cost to the family, regardless of income.
- The cost of the program is \$27 per child, per year. This cost is split evenly between each countywide program and the Governor's Books from Birth Foundation.
- A Dollywood Foundation committee of childhood education experts selects the books for the Imagination Library, which includes such beloved classics as *The Little Engine That Could*, *Spot Goes to the Farm*, *Snowy Day*, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, and *Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten*.

### About the Funding

To assist with county Imagination Library efforts, Governor Bredesen each year requests state funds to cover half the cost of each county's monthly book order. Splitting costs equally with the GBBF, Tennessee Imagination Libraries need only raise \$13.50 per child, per year.

Multiple statewide partnerships with adult and teen organizations contribute largely to the success of the program.

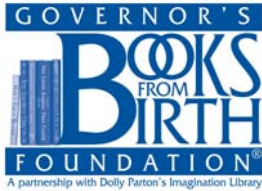
### About our Partnership with Teens

Teenagers became active GBBF partners with the 2005 launch of the *Governor's League of Extraordinary Teens*, which engages teens age 13 – 19 years in the logistical and financial management of their county's Imagination Library.

Currently 212 teenagers across the state have been inducted and countless others are creatively working toward membership in the *League*. These teens have personally registered more than 2,340 children and personally raised more than \$29,320 for their counties' Imagination Library program.

To explore ways your teenage organization can become involved in your county's Imagination Library, or for individual teenagers to begin working on membership in the *Governor's League of Extraordinary Teens*, please contact your county's Imagination Library.

If not included with this handout, contact information for each county's Imagination Library can be found at [www.GovernorsFoundation.org](http://www.GovernorsFoundation.org) or by calling the Governor's Books from Birth Foundation toll-free at (866) 368-6371.



Contact Us  
Main Office: (615) 253.3600  
Toll-Free: (866) 368.6371  
[teens@GovernorsFoundation.org](mailto:teens@GovernorsFoundation.org)  
[www.GovernorsFoundation.org](http://www.GovernorsFoundation.org)

# Join the *League of Extraordinary Teens!*

## About the League of Extraordinary Teens

Created in 2005 by the Governor's Books from Birth Foundation, the *Governor's League of Extraordinary Teens* financially and logistically supports county Imagination Libraries and inspires current and future involvement in the Imagination Library by involving and rewarding young people age 13-19.

### *In exchange for:*

1. personally registering 10 children for your county's Imagination Library
2. personally raising \$135 in donations to your county's Imagination Library

### *You will:*

1. be given the title of GBBF Extraordinary Teen
2. receive a Certificate of Appreciation signed by the Governor
3. be listed as a GBBF Extraordinary Teen on [www.GovernorsFoundation.org](http://www.GovernorsFoundation.org) website by name and county
4. be named in the GBBF *Signpost* quarterly newsletter

How can you  
join the League?



*It's easy!*

Simply ask your county's Imagination Library sponsor for:

1. children's registration brochures for your county
2. donation information for your county

Find your county's Imagination Library sponsor by visiting [www.GovernorsFoundation.org](http://www.GovernorsFoundation.org) and selecting your county in the pull-down menu, or by calling the GBBF toll-free at (866) 368-6371.

3. It's important to turn in donations and registrations to your county Imagination Library sponsor as you get them so children can receive their books as soon as possible.
4. When you're completely finished, ask your county Imagination Library sponsor to submit your name to the GBBF as an Extraordinary Teen.
5. Be sure to note if you are a Beta Club or FCCLA member!

Remember—these funds benefit your county's Imagination Library, not the GBBF.  
It's county teens helping county adults help county children. Now, that's extraordinary!