In 2006 Hamblen County developed a student readiness survey that was administered to Hamblen County preschool students and Head Start 3 & 4 year old students. Data collected, along with quotes from the parents, preschool teachers, Head Start instructors, and community IML partners are presented in this report. If you would like to provide feedback on your experience with the Imagination Library or send a tax deductible contribution to support IML, you can submit them to:

HC*Excell
PO BOX 2156
MORRISTOWN, TN 3781
hcexcell@lcs.net

“The Kiwanis Club of Morristown assisted in starting the Imagination Library in Hamblen County, because it is a great program that emphasizes our commitment to your continuous service program - Young Children: Priority One” Bill Taylor

My daughter, Sara Jean loves her books and she watches the mailbox expectantly everyday asking, “Did I get a book today, Daddy?” Her eyes light up like light bulbs and she gets so excited when she finally receives her new book.

Her favorite books are: ‘When You Give a Pig a Pancake’ and ‘Llama Llama Red Pajama’.

Thomas Bellamy

Children are being read too and the quality of books is outstanding. They are learning the concepts of print and enjoying sharing their books at school from home. Preschool Teacher

My granddaughter runs and gets her book and says “read to me.” Grandmother
The Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program offers one high quality, age appropriate book for birth to age five children, delivered directly to the child’s home, each month at no cost to the family, regardless of income.

Hamblen County children birth to five years of age became eligible for registration when Hamblen County joined the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Family in the fall of 2004.

**HC Imagination Library Partnership**

**HC*EXCELL** – Facilitates partnership and fund raising base

**WSCC** – Manages data base and book returns

**U.S. Postal Service** – delivers books and collects returned books

**HCDOE** – Provides support through HCBOE District Reading Specialist (DRS) as “Ms. Eva” the Reading Engineer, the DRS’ and Pre-K school teachers’ expertise, registration of children and administration of IML Pre-K reading readiness assessments.

**Kiwanis Club of Morristown** – provides marketing support through funding and participation on the HC IML Advisory Council

**Morristown/Hamblen Library** - registers children and supports literacy development in Hamblen County

**Douglas Cherokee** – Registers children and administers IML Pre-K reading readiness assessments

**Hamblen County IML Timeline**

1996 Dolly Parton created Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library in for children in her hometown of Sevierville, Tennessee

2004 Creation of non-partisan, not-for-profit Governor’s Books from Birth Foundation (GBBF) to serve as a catalyst and tangible resource to each county so they could establish and sustain an Imagination Library in each of Tennessee’s 95 counties

Kiwanis Club of Morristown hosts meeting to discuss formation of a HC IML Partnership

September 12 HC IML Program Announcement

September 23 Hamblen County Board of Commissioners approved by resolution participation of Hamblen County in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library

October HC*EXCELL appointed “Affiliate Organization to facilitate HC IML Partnership

December 10, HC IML official Kickoff

2005 December 9, HC IML 1st Birthday celebration at College Square Mall

2006 Preschool and Head Start representatives designed and implemented IML Assessment in Hamblen County

2006-07 GBBF purchased complete IML book sets for all 672 state sponsored Pre-K and all 918 Head Start classrooms in Tennessee and HC*EXCELL purchased book sets for non-sponsored Pre-K classrooms in Hamblen County

2008 GBBF partnered with the TN Department of Human Services to provide full book sets to more than 2,400 DHS-Licensed childcare agencies serving low income infants, toddlers, and preschoolers across the state

2010 Development of Hamblen County IML 5 year report

“The IML program provides Children with an advantage toward learning to read” Eva Thompson