

**District 6290 Grants Committee**  
**District and Global Grants**  
**Approved November 13, 2018 for Rotary Years 2018-2019**

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**DG-10**

**Benzie Sunrise**

District Local Grant

Grant Title: Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program

Amount Awarded: \$3,730

The Advocates for Benzie County's Educational Task Force (ABC-ETF) is raising the start-up funds needed to open all the zip codes in Benzie County for the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library (DPIL). The ABC-ETF held a series of education forums in 2016 & 2017 and identified five areas of need in the county. One of those areas is children being ready for school.

Research has shown that children who participate in DPIL are more prepared for school and have families that connect around books and have developed early reading skills including:

- \* Book handling skills
- \* Understanding of letter & word concepts
- \* Strong speech and vocabulary

The ABC-ETF's objectives of bringing DPIL to all Benzie County zip codes is:

- \* To improve school readiness for ALL Benzie County children
- \* To get books into the hands and homes of ALL Benzie County children ages birth to their 5th birthday
- \* To improve literacy skills
- \* To work collaboratively with County agencies that work to improve literacy skills