



*** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ***

The Little Library that Could

Ivy, Virginia (2/21//2023) – QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia, Inc. (QCV) is pleased to report a Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library (DPIL) program has been established in Craig County, Virginia as a result of our advocacy efforts for this life-changing program. The Craig County Public Library has stepped up to partner with the Dollywood Foundation to provide “home libraries” for 316 kids under age five who live in the county. Since the program launched on January 19, 2023 (which happened to be Dolly Parton’s 77th birthday), 106 kids have been enrolled, representing 34% of the eligible population. That benchmark normally takes 20 months to reach.



The “Little Engine that Could” (the first DPIL book sent to every child who enrolls) behind the new program is Letha Hibbitts. Letha runs the “petite” 600-square foot facility on Main Street in New Castle, Virginia and has made it the “Little Library that Could” get DPIL going in Craig. Craig County is located right on the West Virginia border, has 4,900 residents and is under-resourced as many rural counties are. Letha really stepped up to get this done for the youngest kids in her community.

QCV Founder Lynda Harrill says, “After helping start DPIL chapters in our service area and with the new 50% state funding for the program, we decided to use our experience to help start DPIL chapters all over the state. We first focused on communities in western and far eastern Virginia. It has been quite a geography lesson and an education in human behavior. The Craig Botetourt Electric Cooperative graciously agreed to provide funding as did a Craig County property owner who doesn’t even live in the continental United States. Finding the funding was like putting together a jigsaw puzzle without a photo. But we’re happy to say we did it!

“By happenstance I called Letha one day last fall when she was out of town on vacation and found her in Pigeon Forge, TN just a few miles from the Dollywood Foundation offices. I arranged for her to have a tour the next day. She took lots of photos, but unfortunately, she’s not in any of them. She did get a nice photo of Dolly in the lobby. We are so happy we could help get DPIL going in Craig County.”



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

QuickStart Tennis of Central 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 the heart of Virginia for all beginners, especially underserved youth, using the kid-sized QuickStart Tennis format. QCV’s service area includes, Amelia, Appomattox, Brunswick, Buckingham, Campbell, Charlotte, Culpeper, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Fluvanna, Franklin, Greene, Greensville, Halifax, Henry, Louisa, Lunenburg, Madison, Mecklenburg, Nelson, Nottoway, Orange, Patrick Pittsylvania, Prince Edward, Powhatan and Rappahannock counties and the cities of Charlottesville, Danville and Martinsville, plus under a special arrangement, King George County. We currently serve 214 schools with 101,000 kids, 15 parks & recreation departments, three Boys & Girls Clubs and two YMCAs, in 31 Virginia counties and independent cities. We have also gotten tennis into PE classes in 37 additional schools with 16,000 students in Virginia communities outside our service area.

Visit QCV at www.quickstartcentral.org and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/quickstartcentral).

For additional information, contact quickstartcentral@comcast.net.



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