



SELF and several local community partners are in the initial planning stages of creating a seamless system that connects families and caregivers to the community resources they need. Called Help Me Grow, the program is being replicated in Southwest Washington. When fully implemented, Help Me Grow will help families find support services such as basic health care, early childhood screenings, pre-natal resources, parenting classes - and much more.

SELF is leading the implementation of Help Me Grow, along with six local action teams representing the local community and business partners. The planning group is currently creating a vision, outlining goals and objectives, building relationships with partners and families, collecting data and stakeholder input, and identifying needs. Help Me Grow, Southwest Washington will represent the unique needs of our region, including Clark, Cowlitz, Klickitat, Skamania Wahkiakum, and Pacific counties.

As we create our vision for this work and implement this critical network of support in our communities, we welcome the participation of other partners. For more information [see the fact sheet](#).

Thank you,

Debbie Ham
Executive Director

T-shirts and turkeys help us show appreciation to SELF staff

Weathering the major changes and challenges of caring for hundreds of children during the pandemic, SELF staff members have emerged as true hero's. As one small way of showing appreciation, SELF recently gifted every employee with a custom t-shirt bearing both the SELF and ESD 112 logos. In addition, we will once again thank our amazing staff by gifting a Thanksgiving turkey to every employee.

Hello Dolly! YOU and Dolly can help SELF put books in the hands of kids

There were Dolly Parton sightings all over Vancouver during the Give More 24! fundraising campaign last month. While the country superstar might not have been here personally, a life-size cut-out of her brought plenty of excitement to the shores of the Vancouver Waterfront, the library, Fort Vancouver - and more. As a new affiliate of the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, SELF has joined the literacy advocate in sharing an important appeal - let's get books into the hands of as many children as possible. Some local celebrities joined Dolly for photo ops to help kick off the book-buying campaign, including Mayor Anne, Jim Mains and Jan and Steve Oliva.

About the program - straight from Dolly's heart:

Dolly Parton began the library in 1995 as a tribute to her dad, who was unable to read. [Dolly tells her story here](#).

Today the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is in 5 countries, they've registered 1,854,662 children and gifted 165,176,249 books.

Recently SELF became an affiliate of the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, to put books in the hands of children birth to age five in Clark, Skamania & Klickitat counties.

Now enrolling... all children birth to five can receive free books

Please help us get the word out! SELF is working to enroll families so their child(ren) can begin receiving free books directly from Dolly's library. Every month a registered child receives a high-quality children's book in the mail addressed directly to them.

SELF is responsible for raising \$25 per year (\$2.08 per month) for each registered child. Dolly's Foundation funds and manages the database, selects, purchases, and mails the books to enrolled families each month.

The registration portal opened on September 20 - over **1,800 children** are registered! Parents can register their children online at [selfwa.org](#).

To join us in putting books in the hands of children please donate at [selfwa.org](#).

"When I was growing up in the hills of East Tennessee, I knew my dreams would come true. I know there are children in your community with their own dreams. They dream of becoming a doctor or an inventor or a minister. Who knows, maybe there is a little girl whose dream is to be a writer and singer."

- Dolly Parton

DONATE