

Dear Friend of Stokes County's Young Children (and Bluegrass):

We are so happy to announce that for 2022, *BBQ for Books with a Side of Bluegrass* will be held in its traditional format, live and in person! This popular event is an annual fundraiser to benefit early literacy hosted by Stokes Partnership for Children. This year the event will be held on Friday, October 7, 2022 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Poplar Springs Elementary School in King, NC. We are so excited to announce that the award winning **LONESOME RIVER BAND** will be our featured performer. You can look forward to great food, our "World Famous" silent auction, all the games and the tremendous fun that has put this event on the map. All proceeds from *BBQ for Books with a Side of Bluegrass* are used to purchase new books and to fund early literacy programs for over 2,200 young children in Stokes County. Did you know strong early reading skills form the basis for learning in all subjects? Your donation will help to support early literacy programs such as:

- Dolly Parton's Imagination Library - **EVERY** child under 5 years of age in Stokes County receives a free book **EVERY** month! We launched this program in early 2015 as a direct result of past proceeds from BBQ for Books. Dolly makes it easier for us by keeping our portion of the cost as low as possible, but our portion can add up. On the average our cost is \$25 to \$30 per child, per year.
- Reach Out and Read – Is an evidence-based program that promotes early literacy and school readiness in pediatric exam rooms by giving new books to children and advice to parents about the importance of reading aloud. Currently, we are providing this program at LifeBrite Pediatric Clinic of Danbury and at Novant Pediatrics in King.
- We purchase books to be available for check out by the public through the KidSource Child Care Resource and Referral Library, which includes books specifically for young children, parenting books for parents/caregivers and field specific books for early childhood professionals. Books are also given away at multiple community events throughout the year.
- **NEW!** With proceeds from past BBQ for Books, we are installing a professional Book Walk exhibit at King Central Park to be open by this summer. We are optimistically looking forward to branching out to other parks in the future!. Stay tuned! Plus, we have opened a new Little Free Library at our office! Come by and take a book and leave a book.

Please accept this as a formal request for a donation of an auction item. Would you consider donating something special to our event? We really do appreciate it!

We hope that you will also consider attending the event. You can find out more information by visiting our website at [www.stokespfc.com](http://www.stokespfc.com), by visiting our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/stokespfc](https://www.facebook.com/stokespfc) or by giving us a call at 336-985-2676. Thank you for supporting early literacy in Stokes County!

Sincerely,



Cindy S. Tuttle  
Executive Director