My Very Own Library (MVOL) initiative is an example of what can happen when a critical community need meets up with generous and involved partners!

What is My Very Own Library?

My Very Own Library program encourages and supports student’s love of reading by providing them with the opportunity to receive brand new, free books to build their own home libraries. MVOL is rooted in research indicating that students foster a lifelong love of reading and demonstrating stronger literacy skills as they build their own home libraries. The National MVOL organization works in remembrance of its last founder and philanthropist Anne Freely. MVOL and Scholastic partners to provide generous donations across the county to communities wishing to launch local MVOL programs. United Way of Delaware’s MVOL initiatives is an example of what can happens when generous and involved partners work collectively to address a critical community need.

Throughout the 2020-2021 school year over 92,535 books, 527 Virtual Author Engagement books, 1,091 Spanish title books totaling 94,153 books. With an additional 6,000 MVOL/DDOE Literacy Kits that were provided to students attending 14 participating schools covering 7 different school districts throughout 3 Delaware Counties, New Castle County, Kent County, and Sussex County.

MVOL At A Glance:

The MVOL Program is a collective effort to spark and foster a love for reading and improve literacy test scores among participating school students throughout the state of Delaware. The program is convened by the United Way of Delaware, and supported by DuPont, Global Shapers, and the University of Chicago.

How MVOL Works

Key components of the My Very Own Library program includes: Book distributions providing FREE books to students, family literacy programs, virtual author visits, community engagement, and additional literacy resources. Scholastics team of book expert’s work with each participating MVOL school to provide the exciting experience of a Scholastic Book Distribution for their students. The book distributions are packed with an assortment of popular and award-winning books sorted by grade level and genre for students to read and build their own home libraries.

Provided throughout the 2020-2021 school year

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<th>Books</th>
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<td>527</td>
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My Very Own Library

MVOL Participating School Sites:

14 Participating Schools

- Brandywine School District
  - Harlan Elementary School

- Capital School District
  - Fairview Elementary School

- Caesar Rodney School District
  - W. Reily Brown Elementary School

- Christina School District
  - Stubbs Early Education Center
  - The Bancroft School
  - R. Elisabeth MaClary Elementary School
  - The Bayard School

7 School Districts

- Colonial School District
  - Harry O. Eisenberg Elementary School
  - Wilmington Manor Elementary School

- Indian River School District
  - North Georgetown Elementary School

- Red Clay School District
  - Highlands Elementary School
  - William C. Lewis Elementary School
  - Shortlidge Academy
  - Warner Elementary School

3 Delaware Counties

MVOL Resources

- Monthly meeting with MVOL collaborative
- Access to UW 211 press 4
- Book Distribution opportunities along with virtual/in person Family Engagement Opportunities
- Weekly Reading Angels Video provided to MVOL DE Sites
- Special collaboration events with MVOL national continuum (Ex. MVOL Night of Poetry, Saturday Moring Wake Up & Read initiative)
- Working with outside literacy organization and well as with in our MVOL continuum to create Reading Book Challenges and literacy activities

MVOL Outcomes

- Students will have an increased love of reading
- Student will have increased literacy test scores
- Increased parent engagement events/activities around literacy (virtual and in-person)

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