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CRT Case Managers to be available at Park and Barbour Libraries this Spring

(Hartford, March 28, 2019) Greater Hartford’s network of social support and assistance programs is large and often confusing. To help guide individuals to the services they need most, Hartford Public Library (HPL) is partnering with the Community Renewal Team (CRT) to offer case management services at the Park and Barbour libraries every other Wednesday this April, May and June.

CRT will be supplying Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) Case Management Assistants on April 3 and 17, May 1, 15 and 29 and June 12 and 26 from 11 am to 12 pm, at Hartford Public Library’s Barbour Library, 261 Barbour Street (Unity Plaza) and Park Library, 744 Park Street.

Case managers will be able to guide individuals to programs dealing with employment, housing, education, nutrition, credit rebuilding, budgeting and numerous other challenges. The case managers will also be able to provide assistance, including income levels requirements and other qualifications, in applying for state aid. The case manager at the Park Library will be able to assist individuals in both Spanish and English.

“We appreciate the opportunity to partner with CRT in providing this critical outreach,” said HPL CEO Bridget Quinn-Carey. “The Greater Hartford region is rich in resources but accessing them can be a challenge. HPL staff works diligently to help our public navigate these challenges. Having case managers who specializes in this type of assistance will take our level of service one step further.”

“Everyone at CRT is proud to work directly with our colleagues at the Hartford Public Library to offer our services and resources to people living in Hartford. This partnership is an opportunity for us to meet directly with people in need of supportive services whether the assistance needed is help with emergency food and long-term food security, housing security, employment, money management/credit rebuilding, or other needs – we can meet one-on-one with families, have that conversation, and begin working together on viable solutions, all at the convenient and

comfortable location of a local branch library,” said Elizabeth Horton Sheff, Director of Community Services for CRT.

Graciela Rivera, manager of the Park Library, said, “Partnering with organizations to meet the needs of the people in our community is an everyday commitment at Hartford Public Library, and one of the many ways we support our community. We are excited to work alongside CRT to bring more access to information and services that will contribute to our community's overall well-being.”

Irene Blean, manager of the Barbour Library, said, “Today, technological barriers add a whole new level of stress to obtaining basic human needs. CRT case management service will assist our customers with accessing housing, food, education, jobs, and much more, achieving a more peaceful, purposeful life for people in the neighborhood we serve.”

ABOUT HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Now celebrating its 125th year, Hartford Public Library remains at the forefront of redefining the urban library experience in the 21st Century. With seven locations throughout the city, the library provides education, intellectual enrichment and cultural development for thousands of children, youth and adults every year. Hartford Public Library has also gained local and national recognition for its wide range of new initiatives and partnerships designed to meet the needs of a diverse and dynamic city and region, including immigration services, employment assistance and youth leadership training. Please visit www.hplct.org.

ABOUT CRT

CRT helps individuals, families, and entire communities take steps toward a healthy and economically stable future. Since 1963, CRT has worked closely with local officials, providers, private funders and the public to address challenges such as hunger, homelessness and unemployment.