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## For Immediate Release

### **Hartford Financial Services Awards \$47,000 To Hartford Public Library**

**January 22, 2018** — Hartford Public Library has received a \$47,500 grant from The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc., to fund three initiatives: Boundless; Library-on-Wheels; and adult programs at West Middle School. The grant also includes a sponsorship for the 2018 Beyond Words annual fundraising event.

Libraries play an important leadership role in supporting reading achievement by convening community resources and connecting families and their children with local opportunities for learning and engagement, particularly during the summer. The Boundless partnership allows the Hartford Public Library and the Hartford Public Schools to jointly address four key areas: school readiness; library services and access; programming for students and families; and intervention programs and services.

Hartford Public Library's Library-On-Wheels (LOW) delivers library services to persons who are not served or are underserved by traditional branches because of physical, economic, social, geographic, or other barriers. In 2018 the LOW will expand from three sites to seven sites, and allow for users to connect to the internet via our hotspot and/or access information on one of our laptops. In addition, the LOW assistant will register people for library cards, provide simple instruction in computer use and how to access the library's e-resources as well as links to resources in health and city services that will meet their needs, such as our Municipal ID program and GED classes.

Hartford Public Library will continue supporting West Middle School by strategically focusing its outreach on the parents, guardians and adult learners in the neighborhood who serve both directly and indirectly as mentors and role

models for the children of that community. The Library services at West Middle Community School will strategically focus its programming on its adult literacy efforts recognizing that the success of the adult learner is explicatively linked to the success of the young student in building a strong neighborhood community.