



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Richard Frieder, 860-695-6365

Quality of Life Initiative – Celebrating Action!

Hartford, CT, October 22, 2013 – A broad spectrum of Hartford community members will gather at Hartford Public Library, 500 Main Street, on Wednesday, October 23 at 6:00 p.m. to celebrate the results of the Quality of Life Initiative and discuss next steps. Refreshments will be available at 5:30 p.m..

The Quality of Life Initiative was launched in July by Hartford 2000, Hartford Public Library, the Mayor’s Office, Hartford Police Department, and MetroHartford Alliance. Three Community Conversations, attended by a diverse group of over 200 people, were held in Hartford neighborhoods in August and September to discuss quality of life issues such as noise, litter, public safety, recycling, and landlord and tenant relations. A number of Action Teams were formed as a result of the Community Conversations, some of which will report at the October 23 event. Mayor Pedro Segarra, Hartford 2000 Co-Chairs Bernadine Silvers and Jackie McKinney, Hartford Public Library CEO Matthew K. Poland, MetroHartford Alliance CEO Oz Griebel, Police Chief James Rovella, and City Councilman Kyle Anderson will make brief comments.

“The goal of this Initiative is to improve the quality of life in Hartford by engaging many Hartford stakeholders in dialogue and action,” said Jacqueline D. McKinney, co-chair of Hartford 2000. “The Community Conversations also contributed to enhancing relationships among neighborhood residents, the Hartford Police Department, the business community, and others. This will help build a stronger community,” she said.

“Nothing is more important to the city of Hartford than its quality of life,” said Mayor Pedro Segarra. “That is why I’m so delighted to be part of this new Initiative, and so pleased that staff from City departments were active participants in the Community Conversations.”

Matthew K. Poland, the Library’s CEO, said “The Quality of Life Initiative is an important opportunity for our citizens to make a real difference. Research indicates a significant connection between residents' love for their community and the area’s local economic growth. The fact that so many Hartford stakeholders participated in the Community Conversations, and that so many have joined Action Teams,

demonstrates deep affection and commitment to our City. I'm delighted that Hartford Public Library is part of this effort."

"The MetroHartford Alliance is delighted to collaborate with the Mayor's Office, Hartford 2000, Hartford Public Library, and the Hartford Police Department on the Quality of Life Initiative," said CEO Oz Griebel. "As the City's Chamber of Commerce and the Region's economic development leader, we fully understand the importance that a high quality of life in all neighborhoods has on ensuring that the Capital City remains the dynamic urban core of the region. The Alliance looks forward to continuing this important dialogue and working with all the stakeholders to guarantee that Hartford remains a premier place for all people to live, work, play, and raise a family."

For further information, or to learn more about how to get involved in the Quality of Life Initiative, contact Ted Steege at tsteege@hartford2000.org or 860-882-7714 or Richard Frieder, rfrieder@hplct.org or 860-695-6365.

About [Hartford Public Library](#)

Hartford Public Library traces its roots to 1774. It operates 10 locations in the City of Hartford. The Library receives more than 860,000 visits per year. Services include access to a large collection of materials for reading and research, as well as music and video. Programs provide education, information and enrichment to the people of Hartford in such areas as citizenship training, literacy, business skills and cultural awareness. The mission of Hartford Public Library is to provide free resources that inspire reading, guide learning, and encourage individual exploration. Visit hplct.org and the library's new blog at blogs.hplct.org

About Hartford 2000

Hartford 2000 is a coalition of Hartford's 13 Neighborhood Revitalization Zones and the City of Hartford. Its mission is to strengthen the individual and collective capabilities of the Neighborhood Revitalization Zones and to serve as an advocate for neighborhood issues.