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**Hartford Public Library's Library-On-Wheels Campaign Enters the Home Stretch;
The Hartford Donates Half the Funding Needed**

Hartford, Connecticut (September 19, 2012) — Hartford Public Library is pleased to announce today that it is in the home stretch of reaching its goal of raising \$150,000 for the purchase of a new library-on-wheels, formerly known as a bookmobile.

The library-on-wheels campaign kicked off at the 2011 One Big Summer Night, the Library's annual gala. To date the Library has raised \$125,250 through individual donations (\$50,250) and a generous contribution of \$75,000 from The Hartford Financial Services Group Inc. These individual donations were partially funded through several donor-advised funds at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving.

"The Hartford is proud to support the library-on-wheels campaign to increase access to library services for our neighbors in Hartford," said Alan Kreczko, executive vice president and general counsel for The Hartford. "Enhancing education is one of The Hartford's philanthropic priorities and we look forward to seeing local residents once again take advantage of this great service."

If the Library raises the additional \$4,750 the Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving will provide the remaining \$20,000.

Many residents are not able to visit a library in the city: people with limited mobility, some senior citizens, the disabled, the homebound and underserved children and their families. The library-on-wheels allows the Library to bring library services to where they live, and by doing so we significantly increase access to the library for all citizens.

The Library's customers have relied on this mobile service since 1956. In 2009 the vehicle broke down beyond repair.

"So many people who depended on the library-on-wheels have been waiting for the return of the service", said Matthew K. Poland, chief executive officer at Hartford Public Library. "We are very close to being on the road again thanks to the generosity of so many friends of the Library."

To help the Library's library-on-wheels campaign reach its goal please consider making a donation by visiting <http://www.hplct.org/support/bookmobile> or by sending a check to Hartford Public Library, Library-on-wheels campaign, 500 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06103-3075. For further information about the library-on-wheels, please contact Mary Crean, chief development officer at (860) 695-6360 or by email at mcrean@hplct.org.

About Hartford Public Library

The 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